Pelaez son rescued from kidnappers

STORY IN ACROSS, PAGE A12

P15

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Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS

JANUARY 14, 2001 ★★ 54 PAGES 4 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 37

IN *Sunday*LIFESTYLE

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Espiritu leaves for US

'Death threats,' says prosecutor; 'Sign of perjury,' says Maceda

BY TJ BURGONIO
AND DONNA S. CUETO

FORMER Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu yesterday left the country for the United States after receiving death threats and giving damaging testimony against President Estrada in his Senate impeachment trial.

Espiritu and his wife Lydia left at 10:36 a.m. aboard Northwest Airlines Flight 26 bound for Los Angeles, immigration personnel at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport said.

Former Batangas Rep. Hernando Perez, a private prosecutor who conducted the direct examination on Espiritu, said that since Wednesday both of them had been receiving death threats from certain persons who warned them to stop implicating Mr. Estrada in the trial.

But Ambassador Ernesto Maceda, the President's spokesperson in the impeachment trial, said Espiritu's flight was an indication of perjury.

"Ed Espiritu is afraid for his family and for his life because of the serious death threats," Perez said in a press statement.

"Mr. Espiritu is leaving to secure himself and his family who want him dead because of the damaging testimony he has given in the Senate," he added.

Maceda, however, had a different explanation for Espiritu's sudden departure.

"Sen. Franklin Drilon put forward a theory that when Laarni Enriquez left for Hong Kong, she was guilty," Maceda said, referring to one of the President's mistresses who had been subpoenaed to appear at the Senate trial.

"By Drilon's theory, Espiritu was guilty of perjury . . . This appears to be a case of hit-and-run, sustaining our conclusion that the prosecution is no longer prosecuting its case . . . only for

ESPIRITU /A16

Car bomb gave MILF leaders away, say cops

BY DAVE VERIDIANO
AND JOWEL F. CANUDAY
PDI Mindanao Bureau

A CAR bomb at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport was "the key" to solving the Dec. 30 bombings in Metro Manila, Deputy Director Gen. Jewel Canson, Philippine National Police deputy chief for operations, told the INQUIRER yesterday.

To prove its claims that Moro Islamic Liberation Front leaders masterminded the attacks, the PNP declassified reports of its investigation into the five precision-timed explosions that killed at least 18 people and wounded more than 90 others.

A copy of an alleged four-page MILF bombing plan, titled "Feasibility Study" and labeled "Top Secret," includes a breakdown of budget requirements for bombing material, cell phones, transportation, and hotel accommodations in Manila for a 12-man MILF bombing team, according to police.

The budget for the entire "bombing mission" was P730,000, according to the document.

CAR/ A16

FILIPINO OF THE YEAR 2000

HILARIO DAVIDE JR.

Yes, Your Honor

Editor's Note: The INQUIRER applauds a living Filipino who made the most positive impact this past year on the life of the nation. Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. as presiding officer of the impeachment trial won 20 votes cast by editors, assistant editors, the chiefs of research and the photo departments. Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson was a close second with 16 votes. Singson was cited for being the "trigger" for the other exposés and witnesses against President Estrada, and for his courage to testify against a powerful friend "whatever the noble or ignoble reason for doing so."

FIAT justitia ruat coelum. Let justice be done though the heavens fall.

This is the great hope of Filipinos as the impeachment trial of the President of this Republic continues to proceed smoothly despite obstructions, objections, obfuscations and death threats. Because of one man.

The wonder is that the trial is going on at all. It couldn't be done, said those who had given up on the Philippine justice system. Especially not when it involved the country's most powerful man. Not when thousands upon thousands of enraged Filipinos nearly every day demand that justice be done right there in the streets.

YES/ A16

How 21 senators cope with Erap trial

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

HIRING entire law firms, cutting down on socials, praying a lot, getting regular exercise, and playing with pet chihuahuas.

Those are some of the ways that senator-judges are surviving through the first impeachment trial in the land.

Teresa Aquino-Oreta, who got married before she could finish her freshman year in law school, has employed a whole law firm to help her sift through all the testimony, documents, evidence and rules dominating the proceedings.

"Each night at the end of the trial, I sit with them and I ask them all sorts of questions. They are also here, observing the trial," said Aquino-Oreta, one of a handful of non-lawyers among the senators.

Gregorio Honasan, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Robert Jaworski and his father-in-law Ramon Revilla have also retained lawyers to help them through what Rodolfo Biazon described as all the "legal gobbledygook."

But topping the survival kit of all the lawmakers, the INQUIRER found out, is exercise. Sitting for five or six hours every day, five days straight every week, has taken its toll on even the younger and healthier of the 21 senators. (Sen. Robert Barbers has not returned from a throat operation in the United States.)

Since the trial of the President began on Dec. 7, the senator-judges have logged about 126 hours worth of hearings in 21 days—not counting the Senate's two-hour regular sessions in the morning.

"The physical burden, rather than the mental or psychological burden, is the more difficult to cope with," said Sergio Osmeña III, who added that the senators have devoted longer hours to work, have canceled all out-of-town trips and have declined invitations to socials.

Renato Cayetano juggles precious off-trial hours spending time with his family and frequenting the gym.

Honasan, a one-time charismatic military rebel, said that being physically fit helps to enhance the mental, psychological, and spiritual

HOW /A16

PMA Class '71 to adopt Erap, guilty or not

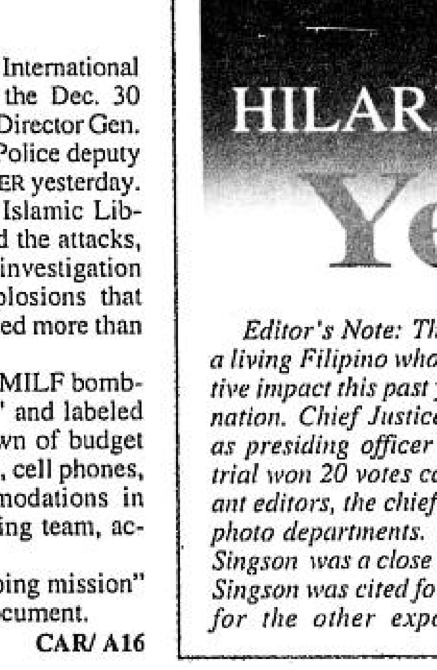
BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

SO President Estrada has been charged with, among other things, graft and corruption and betrayal of public trust?

No sweat. Class 1971 of the Philippine Military Academy is determined to adopt him as one of its own regardless of the outcome at his impeachment trial.

The group is just waiting for public passions to die down be-

PMA /A16


KAHIT MA-SIPA KA DUON, WELCOME KA NAMAN SA AMIN!!
AER

Gringo plays down People Power II

'Civilian uprising will only succeed with military backing'

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

A CALL for another "people power" revolt will not succeed today because the military will not support it, Sen. Gregorio Honasan said yesterday.

"Without a military breakaway component, people power would be meaningless," said Honasan, a player of the 1986 civilian-backed uprising on Edsa that led to the toppling of the Marcos dictatorship and Corazon Aquino's assumption of power.

But militant groups and the multisectoral Estrada Resign Movement (Resign) welcomed the announcement Friday of a spokesperson of Jaime Cardinal Sin that the Manila archbishop would call on Edsa-style people power if President Estrada is acquitted through "deceit and manipulation" at his impeachment trial.

If things come to such a situation, the Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap (Kadamay) said, it would mobilize its 300,000 urban poor members nationwide in response to Sin's call.

Kadamay said that from what it had seen and heard at the impeachment trial, "there is enough evidence to declare Estrada guilty and unfit to continue as President."

Resign spokesperson Fr. Joe Dizon said the alliance was throwing its "full support" behind Sin's announcement, which was made through Fr. Lito Jopson, media director of the Manila archdiocese. Dizon lauded the cardinal "for giving the people fresh hope that their dream of having an Erap-free new year may become a reality."

He said Sin's statement was "justified by the actuations of Estrada loyalists" at the trial and "supported by the people who want a corrupt and fascist leader to be removed from office."

Honasan conceded that Sin "can try" to reprise his 1986 call on the people to take to the streets against Marcos.

"I wish the archbishop good luck, (but) I don't think they can get a military component," he told reporters at a press forum.

Honasan said a civilian uprising would only succeed if the military, or a small component of it, would

GRINGO /A16

ABA! MALAKING GULO ITO!

Second FRONT PAGE

GARBAGE WAR

Rizal folk gird for battle

By Blanche S. Rivera and Norman Bordadora

ANGRY residents and officials of Rizal province yesterday prepared for the worst as dump trucks carrying Metro Manila's garbage rumbled toward the San Mateo landfill, which was reopened on Jan. 11 on orders of President Estrada.

The continued impasse over the final destination of Metro Manila's garbage in the face of vigilant citizens standing up to seemingly helpless metropolitan authorities has the country's health officials seriously worried.

Health Secretary Alberto Romualdez yesterday said Metro Manila could soon be declared in a "state of health emergency" if an immediate solution to the problem of garbage collection and disposal is not found soon.

Romualdez, who earlier proposed amendments to the Clean Air Act to allow garbage incinerators to operate, said Metro Manila could face outbreaks of waste-related diseases if the metropolis' solid waste remains uncollected in the next three days.

He warned of possible outbreaks in many communities of hepatitis A, typhoid fever, respiratory diseases and illnesses caused by food-borne bacteria.

Uncollected garbage has accumulated in many areas of the city after contractors failed to collect them because of the lack of a dumpsite. Mr. Estrada decided to suspend plans to use Semirara island off Antique province as an alternative dumpsite because of public outcry in that province.

However, his proposed solution of reopening the San Mateo landfill has caused an even bigger stink as the citizens of Rizal have risen en masse to oppose the decision.

Burn the trucks

"We will burn the dump trucks," they declared as they returned to manning the barricades blocking the routes to the San Mateo landfill in Barangay Pintong Bukawe after a 12-day respite.

Rizal residents yesterday readied the bulldozers and heavy equipment of the Antipolo City government, as well as rocks and other blockading materials, which would form the second line of the barricade.

"Just because they could not bully the people of Semirara (in Antique), they're coming back here. Over our dead bodies," said Eleazar Kasilag, spokesperson of A-Homes, which represents around 200 subdivisions in Rizal and is one of the non-government organizations opposing the operation of the landfill.

And dead bodies it could well be.

In his memo dated Jan. 11, President Estrada directed Interior Secretary Alfredo Lim and Metro Manila Development Authority chair Jejomar Binay to "use such means as may be necessary" within the bounds of law to carry out the reopening of the San Mateo landfill.

Policemen accompanying the dump trucks going to the landfill may figure in violent clashes with Rizal residents who have adamantly vowed "never" to admit Metro Manila's garbage again.

It ain't over

Despite the reported presidential order to scrap the scheduled dumping of the capital's garbage in Semirara, the issue is far from closed. Antique residents said the issue will not be over until all the barges containing 4,000 tons of garbage are ordered to return to the capital.

Besides the impeachment trial of the President has damaged Mr. Estrada's credibility as far as Antiqueños and their allies are concerned.

"We cannot simply believe the words of the President who in the ongoing impeachment trial has been proven to be a consistent liar," the Katipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap (Kadamay), a nationwide association of urban poor groups, said. It said in a statement that the two barges were still docked 100 meters off Semirara island.

The United Antiqueños, a group of concerned Antique residents, yesterday said it would file an administrative case before the Ombudsman against Binay, presidential adviser on flagship projects Robert Aventajado and the private contractors, DM Consunji and R-II Builders for entering into a questionable contract to dump garbage on Semirara.

The group said Binay and the others violated the law which prohibits the dumping of waste materials in protected areas. Semirara is a sanctuary for the endangered Philippine turtle

With a report from Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

Metro trash dumped in Nueva Ecija

CABANATUAN CITY—For three nights now, more than 30 trucks have been dumping garbage from Metro Manila on a hilly area in Gapan town, according to reports received here.

Former Gapan Mayor Ernesto Natividad said he knew that the town had not authorized anybody to dump garbage at Barangay Macabaklay, some 15 km from the Gapan town proper. The area is near the boundary of General Tinio town in Nueva Ecija and San Miguel town in Bulacan.

Gapan Mayor Arthur Velayo could not be reached for confirmation of the reports as he was attending the wake of his brother.

But Gapan Vice Mayor Marcelino Alvarez had confirmed reports that truckloads of garbage from Metro Manila had found their way to Barangay Macabaklay.

The garbage were being dumped late in the evening or early morning, reports said.

"Many of us were caught unawares of the coming in of the Manila garbage to our town," Natividad said. Various sectors in the town would stage protest actions against the dumping of the Metro Manila garbage in Gapan, he warned.

Although the place is far from a residential area, the dumping of garbage there would contaminate the town's water source located near the area, he said.

In San Fernando, Pampanga, the rampant dumping of garbage collected from Pampanga and Metro Manila has been going on since last year at the FVR Megadike and regional public works officials expressed fears the mammoth lahar-catching structure would in time become another dump like Payatas.

The "rampant" and "indiscriminate" disposal of garbage at the 56-km dike in Bacolor town had been the subject of letters by Federico Gaspar, regional Department of Public Works and Highways director, according to engineer Lita Manalo, officer in charge of the DPWH's Mount Pinatubo Rehabilitation project management office.

Gaspar, in a recent letter, called the attention of Chief Supt. Roberto Calinisan, Central Luzon police director, on the "rampant dumping of garbage" observed along the megadike, particularly at the east and west lateral dikes in Bacolor, Santa Rita and Porac towns.

Gaspar said the piles of garbage resulting from "indiscriminate dumping" in those sites may damage the existing dike structures, especially along the slopes. *Anselmo Roque and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Just helping, says AFP of garbage collection job

By Alcuin Papa

WE are not garbage collectors. We will only help in keeping the environment clean.

This was the defense of the Armed Forces of the Philippines after President Estrada ordered the AFP to help collect the garbage accumulating around the city due to the garbage crisis

"We are not going to be garbage collectors. We will only help in cleaning the environment of Metro Manila," Brig. Gen. Generoso Senga, AFP spokesperson told reporters yesterday

Senga was reacting to criticisms that the AFP soldiers would be "demeaned" by the new orders given to them by Mr. Estrada, the AFP's commander in chief.

Earlier, former President Fidel Ramos, himself a retired soldier, said the move was going against the basic duties of the soldiers to keep the peace. Instead, Ramos said the soldiers would become the garbage collectors of the Estrada administration.

According to Senga, part of the duties of the AFP is to help in "the protection of the environment," which is why they are active in tree-planting projects, the campaign against illegal logging and in the campaign against the destruction of the environment in general

"There's nothing wrong if we help in the collection of garbage. This does not mean the military is being made garbage collectors," Senga added.

Metro Manila is facing a garbage crisis after the San Mateo landfill was closed at the end of last year. Lately, mounds of garbage have been accumulating around the city streets.

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Troops seal off area of girl's kidnappers

By Alcuin Papa

THE MILITARY has cordoned off an area in Basilan where it believes a rebel group is holding a 6-year-old girl hostage, as the child's mother made an emotional appeal over the radio for her daughter to stay healthy and be patient while in the hands of her abductors.

In a report to Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff Gen. Angelo Reyes, the AFP's Southern Command said it has located the area where the Abu Sayyaf is holding April Adzam "Aiman" Grant, daughter of Filipina Mina Rasul Grant and stepdaughter of Briton Douglas Grant.

The military said the girl was taken to a heavily forested area in Parang, Tuburan in Basilan. It identified one of the kidnappers as a certain Jubaran.

Speaking over radio station dxRZ, Mina Grant told April: "I'm sorry, sweetheart, to call you late. I know what's in your mind. I know that you will say, 'mommy, I'll be a good girl, mommy please take me home now.'

"Don't be sad. Eat your food. I miss you very much. You should eat so you can stay healthy. You ask them (the kidnappers) anything you want. Don't hesitate. Don't worry, sweetheart, I'm still here. You should stay there for the meantime. That's what your daddy said," Mrs. Grant said.

To the kidnappers, she added, "I appeal to you to please release safely my daughter."

Last Thursday, it was Douglas who had appealed to the kidnappers to take him in place of his stepdaughter. Grant lives in Inverness, Scotland, where he is taking care of his elderly parents.

April was seized from her home on Basilan island last Wednesday by four armed men believed to be members of the Abu Sayyaf.

The group was responsible for over 50 incidents of kidnapping of foreign and local hostages since last year. Most of the hostages have since been released except for American Jeffrey Schilling and Filipino Roland Ullah.

Mina Grant said the kidnappers had told her to come up with P100,000 for the release of her daughter when they seized her from the family home.

She has not heard from the kidnappers since, Mina said.

The military has sealed off the area and has barred foreigners from traveling to critical areas in Mindanao, including Basilan province, because of fears of more kidnappings.

The Philippine Army's 18th Infantry Battalion is closely coordinating with local police in the rescue operation and has sealed off the area to prevent the abductors from escaping. *With a report from AFP*

5 Moro rebs slain; shelling kills baby

ILIGAN—Five Muslim guerrillas were killed in a military assault on one of their camps as a six-month-old baby girl was killed by separatists testing new mortar equipment, the military said yesterday.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front fired shells from 81mm mortars at the largely Christian town of Kauswagan in Lanao del Norte province before dawn, killing the child and wounding her mother, father and two-year-old brother, local military spokesperson Major Francisco Simbajon said.

Simbajon said the MILF members were shelling Christian homes just to test three new mortars they received from their fellow rebels in Cotabato.

In another incident, five MILF guerrillas were killed and an undetermined number wounded when troops attacked a perimeter camp of the rebels overlooking President Roxas town in North Cotabato province, regional military spokesperson Major Julieto Ando said.

Three soldiers were wounded in the attack, he added.

Captured in the assault on the heavily-fortified camp were five M16 rifles, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers and documents outlining the MILF's "terroristic plans for 2001," Ando said.

The government has suspended moves to reopen peace talks with the MILF after police blamed the group's top leaders for masterminding the series of deadly bombings in Metro Manila on Dec. 30 that killed 22 people. *AFP*

P1.8-B 'ghost' projects probed

By Michael Ubac

THE OMBUDSMAN has ordered an investigation of "ghost" infrastructure projects in Catanduanes totaling P1.8 billion allegedly involving top public works and provincial officials.

The Office of the Ombudsman ordered the probe based on the recommendation of the Special Task Force (STF) of the National Bureau of Investigation.

Graft investigators of the Ombudsman Fact-Finding and Investigation Bureau (FFIB) are evaluating the evidence submitted by STF chief Max Salvador against officials of the Department of Public Works and Highways in Catanduanes who have been indicted for malversation of public funds and falsification of public documents.

Salvador identified the DPWH officials as district engineer Mariano Saret, assistant engineer Edith Sarmiento, project engineer Rey Biejo, monitoring engineer Elsie Gianan and engineers Octavius Tabuzo and Amador Tejada.

FFIB investigators are also poised to investigate the alleged culpability of Rep. Leandro Verceles Jr., of Catanduanes' lone district, in the scam after at least 173 local executives executed an affidavit linking him to the projects.

The local executives, mostly barangay officials, said that half of the 102 projects were funded through Verceles' Countrywide Development Fund. They claimed that more than P46.5 million has been lost through ghost projects in the province since 1995.

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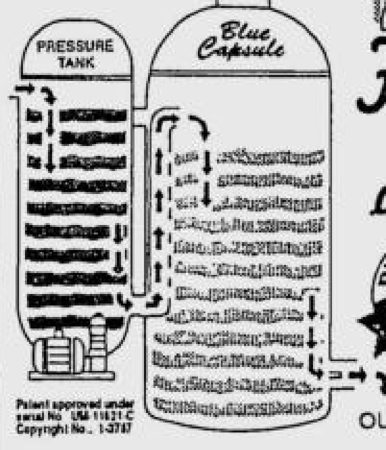

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Be like Clarissa, not Laarni, women urged

By Leah Salterio
and Norman Bordadora

BE LIKE Clarissa and not like Laarni.

This was the pronouncement of the Archdiocese of Manila through its spokesperson and communications director, Fr. Lito Jopson, yesterday as it urged Filipino Catholic women to emulate bank executive Clarissa Ocampo who testified in the impeachment trial of the President, and not Laarni Enriquez, one of Mr. Estrada's mistresses, who fled the country.

Jopson said Ocampo risked her life and the welfare of her family when she decided to testify against the President, while Enriquez fled after she was summoned to appear before the impeachment court.

"It is a blessing that there are women like Clarissa Ocampo, Emma Lim and the other women witnesses in the impeachment trial. They are unlike the mistresses of the President who rely only on their man," Jopson said.

"Ocampo and the other witnesses are good role models for the women of the flock," the priest added.

Jopson's statements came after Enriquez left Manila for Hong Kong Thursday after officers of the court tried to serve her with a subpoena to appear at the Senate trial of the President.

Enriquez's sudden departure left controversy in its wake after a man was arrested at the Ninoy Aguino International Airport while he was about to board her plane with P6 million in cash ostensibly meant for her.

The man, Juancho Mendiola, 36, denied the money was for Enriquez but he failed to come up with a convincing story for investigators.

What was initially learned was that Mendiola, a long-time resident of San Juan, Metro Manila, was a friend of the President's sons, Mayor Jinggoy Estrada and Jude Estrada.

Mayor Estrada, however, has denied knowing Mendiola, even though the latter was reportedly a schoolmate of the mayor's at Aquinas School in San Juan.

Airport officials said Mendiola was met at the airport by a Malacañang employee identified as Ramon "DJ" de Jesus.

It was De Jesus who handed the bag stuffed with P6 million to Mendiola, which explains why the bag did not go through the X-ray machine at Naia's Centennial Terminal 2, the officials said.

De Jesus is a former airport police corporal who now works as a liaison officer for the President.

Although De Jesus admitted being at the airport Thursday morning, he denied meeting up with Mendiola. He said he was at Naia to escort Enriquez.

"My job is to escort members of President Estrada's family who leave or arrive from abroad," De Jesus told the INQUIRER. "I simply do errands. I don't do any kind of smuggling jobs, especially when it involves a huge amount of money."

Some airport security officers who know De Jesus, however, said they spotted him handing the bag to Mendiola.

De Jesus strongly denied knowing Mendiola.

"*Mamatay man ako at buong pamilya ko, hindi ko talaga kilala si* Mendiola (May I and my family be struck dead, I really don't know Mendiola)," De Jesus said.

Mendiola is facing charges of violation of a Central Bank circular that prohibits a passenger from leaving the country with more than P10,000 in cash. The charges were filed before the Pasay City prosecutor's office.

De Jesus said Enriquez had gotten her Philippine Airlines ticket to Hong Kong only the night before she left the country.

Enriquez was accompanied by a close friend, Bebu Buchan, according to De Jesus. Enriquez's sister, Evelyn, was also supposed to leave the country but was not able to get a booking.

De Jesus said Enriquez and Buchan went through the normal check-in procedure prior to their departure.

NEWSBRIEFS

DAR asks Palace: Nix Benedicto plea

THE DEPARTMENT of Agrarian Reform has asked Malacañang to dismiss an appeal by the heirs of the late Ambassador Roberto Benedicto to reconsider a June 9, 2000 order of Agrarian Secretary Horacio Morales Jr. allowing the farmer-beneficiaries to maintain possession of their landholdings in Negros Occidental.

The agrarian reform office made the request after it found that the heirs have filed the appeal prematurely as there has been no judgment on their complaint of unlawful entry by farmer-beneficiaries into their sugarcane plantation in Barangay Nagasi, La Carlota town.

The DAR also asked that a Benedicto-owned firm remove the barricades set up on the road leading to the 231-hectare plantation and allow the farmers to harvest the sugarcane crop.

Gloria's drop explained

A DAY after new surveys showed her approval ratings dropping anew, Vice President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's partymates came to her defense to counter efforts by her detractors to picture her as someone itching to take over the presidency.

Lakas-NUCD spokesman Hernando Perez said yesterday that Macapagal was not in a hurry to take over the presidency when she came up early with her own program of government.

Perez said it was just "normal and expected" under a presidential form of government that vice presidents like Macapagal have his/her own program of government.

"And since President Estrada and Macapagal came from opposing political groups, it is not only natural but a responsibility for her to present her own party's national agenda," Perez said in a statement.

Mr. Estrada heads the Lapian ng Masang Pilipino while Macapagal is the titular head of the Lakas-NUCD party.

El Niño alert up

THE WEATHER bureau has alerted concerned agencies, particularly the agriculture department and local governments, to prepare for the coming of El Niño, a weather disturbance that comes with the dry season, in March.

Nathaniel Cruz, climatologist at the Philipppine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, said preparations should have started by now to minimize the adverse impact of El Niño on the population and the environment.

El Niño is a warming of the Pacific Ocean between South America and the International Date Line a degree or two above its average.

Quake jolts Luzon

A MODERATE earthquake jolted northern Luzon yesterday shaking Metro Manila but causing no damage, officials said. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology recorded the quake at magnitude 4.6 but seismologists placed it at 5.6 magnitude.

The earthquake at 3:18 a.m. local time was centered some 300 kilometers north of Manila in Abra, said the institute.

An institute statement cited no reports of damage although the quake perceptibly swayed high-rise buildings in the metropolis. *AP*

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

POLITICAL LAW (CONSTITUTIONAL LAW)/REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)—Custodial investigation—Custodial investigation is questioning initiated by law enforcement officers after a person has been taken into custody or otherwise deprived of his freedom of action in any significant way. As a suspect, armed policemen interrogated appellant. Behind his inquisitors were a barangay peace officer and other armed policemen. All had been dispatched to arrest him. From these circumstances, we may infer that appellant had already been deprived of his freedom of action in a significant way, even before the actual arrest. Note that even before he was arrested, the police made him incriminatingly pose for photos in front of the marijuana plants. [Citations omitted.] [*En Banc*, Justice Quisumbing, People v. Valdez, G.R. No. 129296, September 25, 2000] DIGEST BY R.B. VERA

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, January 14, 2001
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Is 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace,
for Jerusalem I will not keep silent,
until her holiness shines like the dawn
and her salvation flames like a burning torch.
The nations will see your holiness
and all the kings your glory
You will be called by a new name
which the mouth of Yahweh will reveal.
You will be a crown of glory
in the hand of Yahweh,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
No longer will you be named *Forsaken;*
no longer will your land be called
Abandoned;
but you will be called *My Delight*
and your land *Espoused.*
For Yahweh delights in you
and will make your land his spouse.
As a young man marries a virgin,
so will your builder marry you;
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride,
so will your God rejoice in you.

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12:4-11

There is diversity of gifts, but the Spirit is the same. There is diversity of ministries, but the Lord is the same. There is diversity of works, but the same God works in all.

The Spirit reveals his presence in each one with a gift which is also a service. One is to speak with wisdom, through the Spirit. Another teaches according to the same Spirit. To another is given faith, in which the Spirit acts; to another the gift of healing, and it is the same Spirit. Another works miracles, another is a prophet, another recognizes what comes from the good or evil spirit; another speaks in tongues, and still another interprets what has been said in tongues. And all of this is the work of the one and only Spirit, who gives to each one as he so desires.

Gospel: Jn 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus was also invited to the wedding with his disciples. When all the wine provided for the celebration had been served and they had run out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus replied, "Woman, your thoughts are not mine! My hour has not yet come."

However his mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby were six stone water jars meant for the ritual washing as practiced by the Jews; each jar could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them to the brim. Then Jesus said, "Now draw some out and take it to the steward." So they did.

The steward tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing from where it had come; for only the servants who had drawn the water knew. So, he called the bridegroom to tell him, "Everyone serves the best wine first and when people have drunk enough, he serves that which is ordinary. Instead you have kept the best wine until the end."

This miraculous sign was the first, and Jesus performed it at Cana in Galilee. In this way he let his Glory appear and his disciples believed in him.

Commentary:

"Running out of wine" is a good figurative description of what happens to most of us at certain stages in our lives. We all start out like the newly wedded couple of Cana, overconfident about the feast that life is, thinking that the supply that we have saved for is quite enough, until it runs out. Even married couples at some point run out of the wine of affection and understanding for each other, just as celibates too can run out of the wine of zeal and dedication. John nevertheless assures us that there is no reason to despair as long as we have Mary and Jesus as special guests for the party. "Do as my Son tells you," the mother would say. And all he'd ask us to do is really to fill up the empty jars. With what?—With whatever is left to fill up with, even humble water. As long as you can still offer what is left of you—even water, a miracle is possible. He will touch it and turn it into wine so that in amazement people will say: "You have kept the best wine until now."

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., U.P. Village, Diliman, Quezon City, U.P. P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cnl.net; Website: http://www.cnl.net/claret

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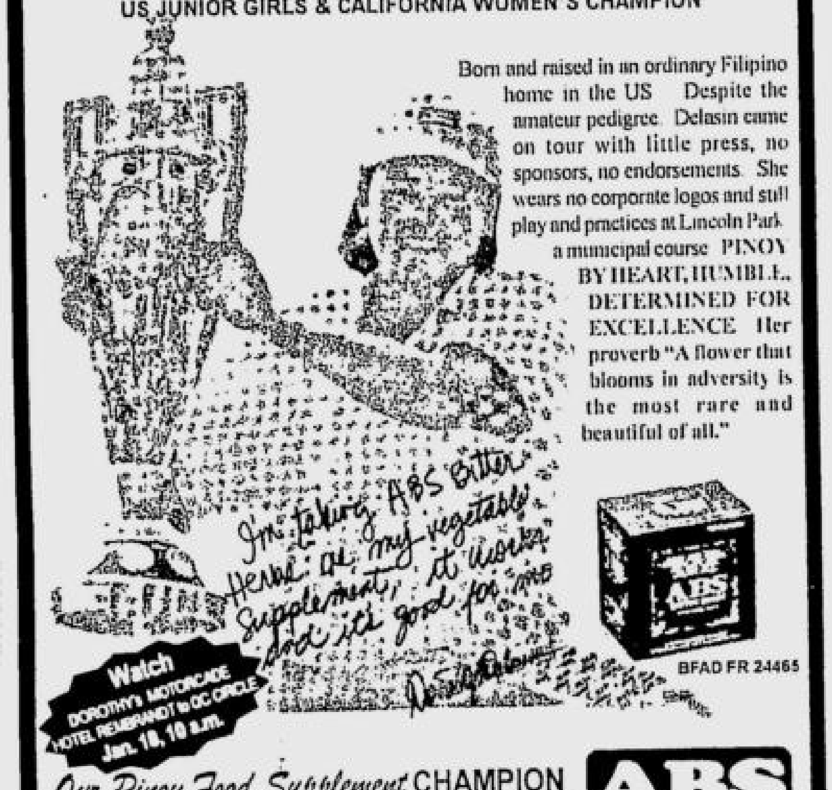
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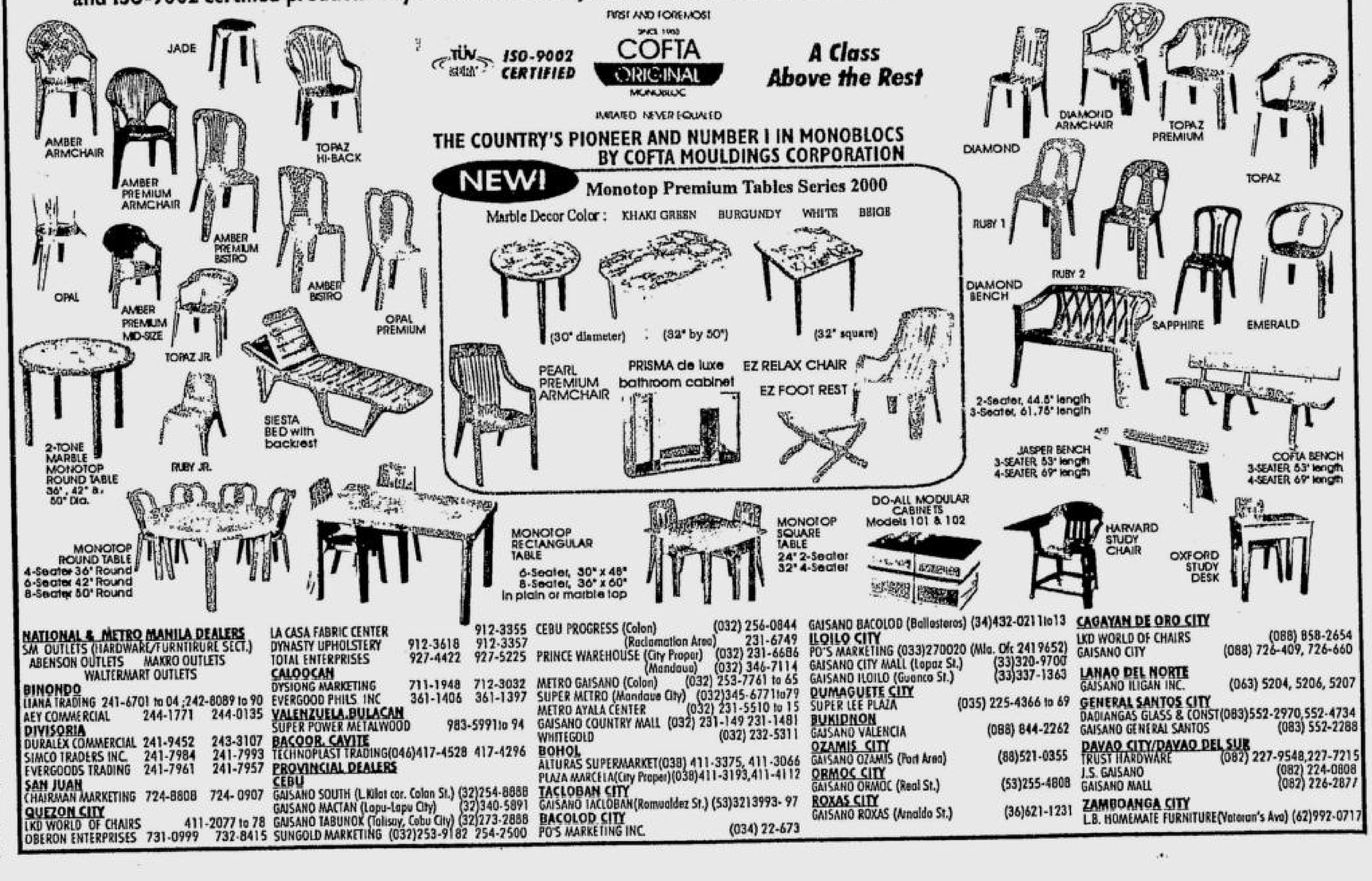
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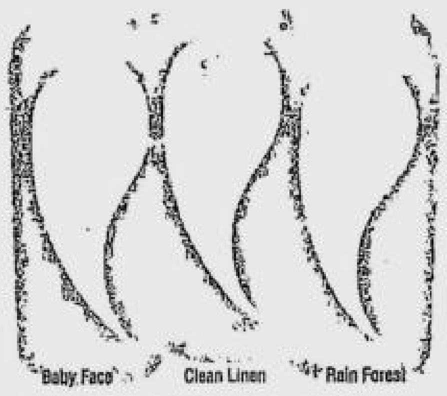

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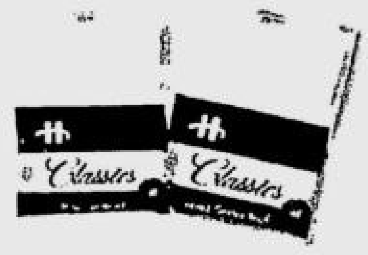

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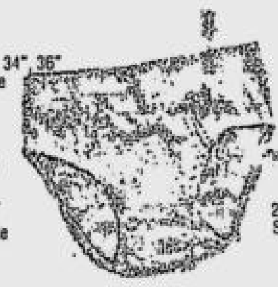

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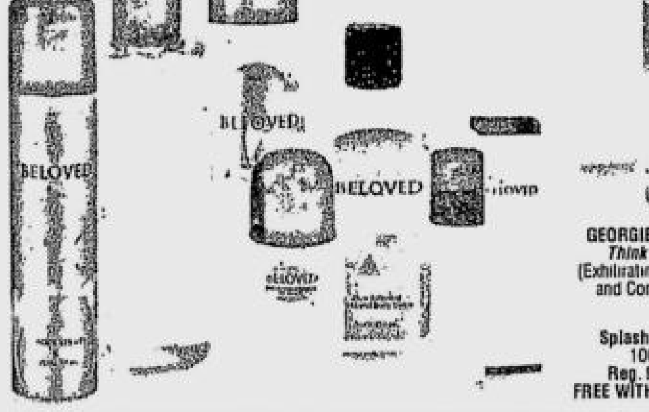

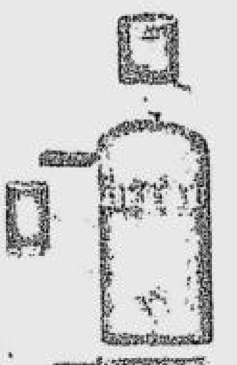

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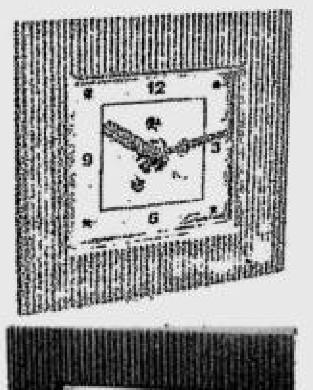

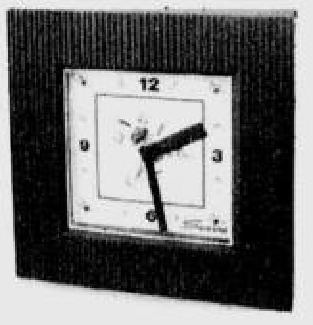

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EDITORIALS

Gone

IF there is any indication that the gods are out to frustrate justice in this country, it is the stealth and haste with which the President's mistress Laarni Enriquez fled the country last Jan. 11. The mistress, a has-been starlet who has three children by President Estrada, left for Hong Kong even though she knew she had been summoned to the Senate impeachment trial to testify on Jan. 17 in connection with Mr. Estrada's unexplained wealth.

Plastics businessman William Gatchalian, a former presidential adviser, also left for Hong Kong around the same time. Gatchalian's name was dragged into the trial as the owner of Wellex Corp., which was the subject of an investment agreement in connection with a P500-million trust account allegedly owned by the President under the name of "Jose Velarde."

Unlike Enriquez, Gatchalian has no pending summons to testify in the trial. It is quite incredible that even if his name has figured in the scandal since the alleged multimillion-peso account of the President at Equitable PCI Bank was exposed, he has not been served a warrant to appear in court. The wages of the oversight by the prosecution and the impeachment court are obvious now.

There was an attempt last Wednesday to serve the subpoena to Enriquez, but to no avail. Obviously her security and household staff were able to elude the court's deputies so that the subpoena was not personally served to her. The incident apparently compelled Enriquez to make a dash for the exit.

In human terms, some will empathize with Enriquez's predicament. She is, after all, one of the more vulnerable of the President's mistresses. But, of course, her leaving does not improve her situation. As Rep. Joker Arroyo said, "Flight is admission of guilt." Definitely, too, it does not improve the precarious position of the First Lady and the rest of the presidential seraglio. The spotlight will be harsh on them.

But the spotlight will be harshest on our system of justice, which appears predisposed to favor power-holders. The flights of Enriquez and Gatchalian, in fact, show how certain interests can run circles around the law and flaunt their licentiousness with arrogance and impunity.

Now, the court has two witnesses less who can be compelled to tell what really happened. What we have been left holding is truth that is a little less complete, a little less credible. We are all losers for our lack of vigilance.

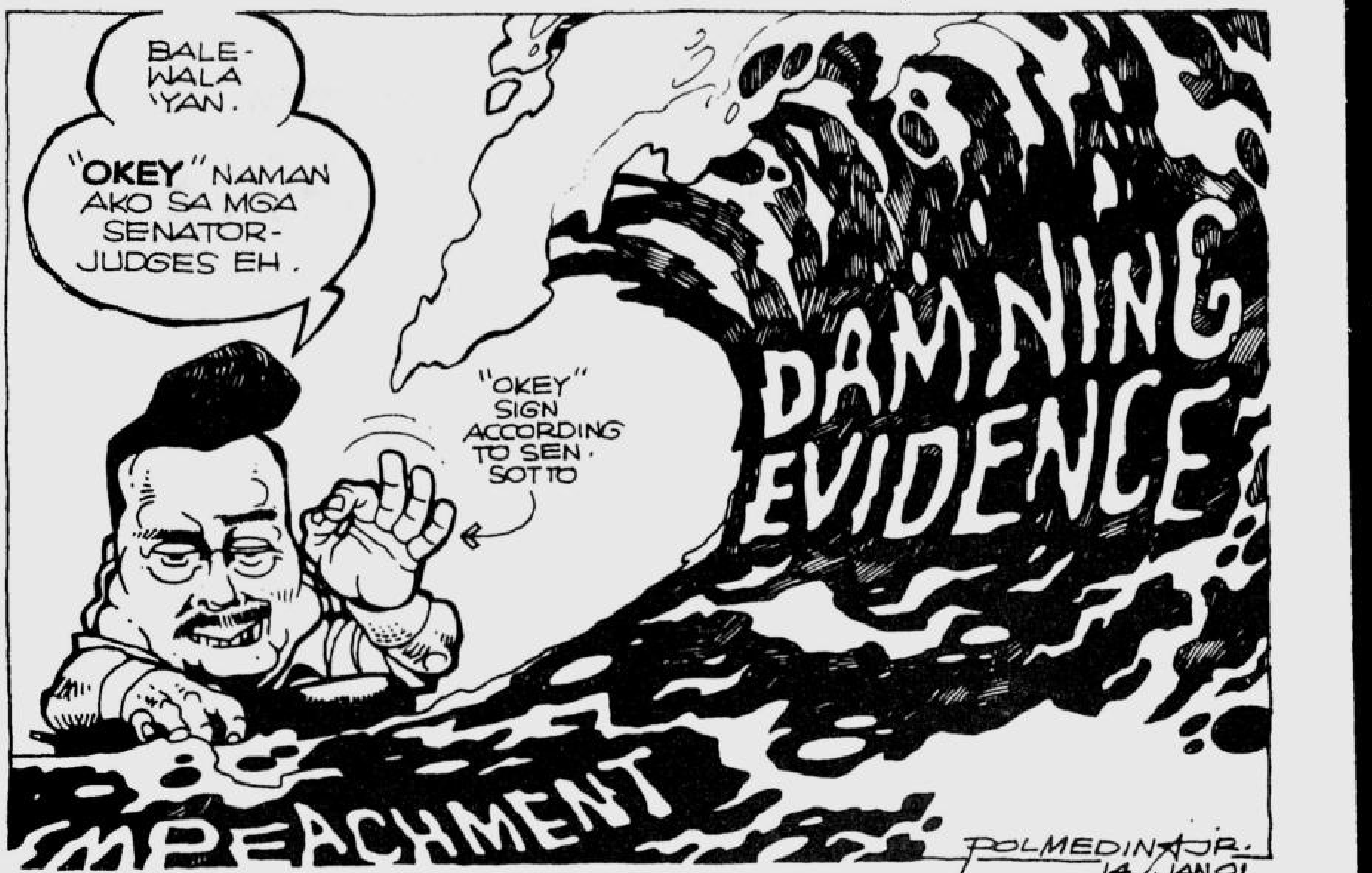
Pushed

JUST as alarming is the harassment and intimidation that have been the lot of people who have chosen to testify for the prosecution. Former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu, former Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Perfecto Yasay, former Philippine Stock Exchange president Jose Yulo, Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, and former Speaker Manuel Villar have all complained of instances of harassment that could have only come from sectors seeking to stop them from telling the truth. Even former Equitable PCI Bank chair George Go has left the country, complaining of death threats which, according to him, "have not only increased in frequency, (but) also become more sinister and more vicious."

Even employees associated with those critical of the President have not been spared. We know, of course, of the chief of staff of Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo who has been accused of malfeasance on a trumped-up charge by the police. There is also the member of the staff of Senate Minority Leader Teofisto Guingona who was abducted by 11 agents of the National Bureau of Investigation over a traffic altercation. And who can forget the illegal detention and interrogation of the 11-year-old son of police officer Dionisio Ventura, who has been floated since he displeased the powers that be, in connection with the bombings last Dec. 30?

If there's a pattern of getaways by witnesses close to the respondent but who can bolster the prosecution case, there's also a pattern of harassment and intimidation of witnesses who continue to risk life and limb in making the impeachment court serve the ends of truth and justice.

But the court cannot just take for granted the dangers these witnesses are risking and the sufferings they are bearing just to disprove our democracy is a sham. The flight of people who have been subpoenaed and the plight of witnesses who are now the subject of threats and harassment by interests intent on suppressing the truth are showcases of the insensitivity and inutility of a court that has promised, at least rhetorically, to uncover the truth and administer justice accordingly. The impeachment court—and the nation—face the judgment of history. This early, the verdict holds little promise of being kind.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Don't hold your breath

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

DESPITE its impressive name, the so-called High Court of Impeachment now trying President Joseph Estrada is nothing more than a political body debating the charges before it on the basis of the loyalties and prejudices of its members. That is the impression of many people who have been watching the proceedings since they started last December.

Even now, the result of the trial is easily predictable. The President will be acquitted. There is no way at the moment that there will be enough senators to vote for his conviction. This will need the support of no less than 14 members, or two-thirds of the 21 senators now sitting at the trial. Only eight other senators will suffice to block that decision. Barring more explosive evidence against him, Erap is sure to walk.

These numbers may change if Sen. Robert Barbers, who has been absent since the trial began, is allowed to vote on the verdict, as he intends to. He says that despite his physical absence, he has been following the proceedings; various sources of information have kept him abreast of the trial as if he had been present all this time. It will be up to the Senate itself to resolve this vital question.

The senators are supposed to be neutral in this unique case, but they have been acting more like counsel for either of the parties. Practically all of the members have telegraphed their leanings with their questions, which should properly seek clarification only as befits the impartial judge. Only a few are non-committal. The rest have debated among themselves in full view of the gallery, and the nation, instead of holding their discussions in camera as expected of a collegiate court.

The senators for or against Erap are readily identifiable. Considered among the President's defenders are Juan Ponce Enrile, Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Tessie Aquino-Oreta, John Osmeña, Gregorio Honasan, Nikki Coseteng, Robert Jaworski, Vicente Sotto III and Francisco Tatad. Those ostensibly against him are Rodolfo Biazon, Rene Cayetano, Franklin Drilon, Teofisto Guingona, Loren Legarda-Leviste, Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Sergio Osmeña III and Raul Roco.

Apparently undecided at the moment are Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Blas Ople (who hasn't spoken a single word since Day One), Ramon Revilla, who was an entertainer like Erap but professes an open mind, and Juan Flavier, who is seeking reelection but shows an independent streak.

Interestingly, those favoring the President have certain interests to pursue, like government assistance to rescue them from financial straits, security of tenure for their relatives, appointments to diplomatic posts or recommendation for an international tribunal, or plain devotion to a common background or former occupation.

The anti-Erap group does not have similar persuasions. As for the "swing" voters, only one or two are expected to move against the President, with the rest losing their nerve in the end and voting to absolve him.

The prejudgments of the senators are quite evident during the daily proceedings. The law is only secondary, the evidence of the parties immaterial and irrelevant to the final decision. The basic consideration is personal regard for President Estrada, or lack of it, regardless of the merits of the case.

Even the quantum of evidence required is not really that important. Assuming that the test required is only substantial evidence instead of proof beyond reasonable doubt, Erap's allies can simply say that the evidence against him is in their view not substantial enough. Much more easily can they claim, if the stricter test is applied, that there are reasonable doubts in their mind about the respondent's guilt.

Assessment of the evidence rests with the judge and cannot be faulted except upon a clear showing of a grave abuse of discretion. In the present case, there is the further obstacle of the doctrine of separation of powers, which may prevent the Supreme Court from entering the "political thicket." The impeachment court, which is not a lower court of justice, is not subject to the usual review powers of the High Tribunal. By its very nature, the senators' verdict will be only partially judicial in character and must be, and will be, politically charged and motivated.

The Senate is only acting as a court in this rare instance. Its members are not judges and may not even be lawyers or, for that matter, at least degree holders. Obviously, the intention of the framers (of the US Constitution, from which we copied our impeachment procedure) was to allow the senators to reach their decision not on the strength alone of strictly legal principles but also of political considerations. They couldn't have ruled on the basis of the law alone because many if not most of them were not expected to be lawyers.

There are only seven lawyers in our present Senate, namely, Cayetano, Drilon, Enrile, Guingona, Pimentel, Roco and Santiago. The rest come from various callings, including business, medicine, sports, the movies and television, comic or otherwise. While concededly outstanding in their respective fields, they nevertheless are not knowledgeable in the law with all its mystique. That, of course, is not their fault. But the simple fact is that, as members of the Senate, they have a right to rule with their lawyer-colleagues—and with equal vote—on whether President Estrada is innocent or guilty.

It's all that Chief Justice Hilario G. Davide Jr. can do to keep the trial on an impartial if not judicial keel. Under the Senate rules, the senators can overrule him even on a legal issue. He cannot even prevent them from grandstanding or asking silly questions as long as they do not exceed the reglementary two-minute limitation. While properly strict with the prosecution and defense counsel, he tends to be accommodating, if not even deferential at times, to the senators. He probably thinks it's their turf, after all.

The trial is scheduled to end with the rendition of the verdict on Feb. 12, 2001. Will President Estrada be acquitted or convicted? Don't hold your breath.

Cheers!

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

JUST as in our present-day impeachment proceedings, we can say that Jesus exploded his first "bomb" at a wedding feast in Cana which caught the defense off-guard and the whole village off-balance, as about 600 liters of good wine flowed freely for a week! Wow! I am sure that Jesus' appointment book was so full of wedding invitations after that. But if you read on to John 2:12, Jesus did not stay on in that place but proceeded to Capernaum. He did not bask in His glory. He got away from the limelight. And that made Him great. He knew how to fade away. If only we learned how to resign and fade away.

* * *

I am sure that many of Jesus' advisers wanted Him to go on as a wedding star. It was after all going to be a very enjoyable and even lucrative business. They were all bound to be rich and famous if they went on that way. They were out to use Him. But Jesus had a broader horizon, a more noble outlook and mission than parties and riches and red wine. The bottom line is, He knew how to say "no" to the lures of this world. And, for Jesus, "No" was a complete sentence. If only we learned to say no.

* * *

The first miracle of Jesus at Cana (Jn. 2:1-11) happened when He was with Mary, His mother. It was Mama Mary who said to her Son "They have no wine." It was also Mama Mary who said to the servers, "Do whatever He tells you." We see here the role of Mary as intercessor. She it is who brings to her Son our needs. It is also she who leads us to her Son Jesus. It is she who keeps reminding us to follow her Son Jesus. That is what I call perfect assist.

* * *

I really don't understand why some people insinuate a "ratings" war between Jesus and Mary, thus putting mother and son at odds against each other. It is very clear that Jesus is No. 1. Even Mama Mary, especially Mama Mary, will be the first one to assert that. There is no contest here. Mama Mary assists, and she always prefers to assist in a hidden, humble way.

* * *

Speaking of assistance, there's a joke among priests about a parish priest and his assistant who at times were not on very good terms, but still prayed the breviary together. The parish priest would begin, "Oh God, come to my assistant..." and the assistant would respond, "Oh Lord, make haste to help him" pointing at the parish priest! According to the story, they finally resolved their differences one evening over bottles of beer. Every time a bottle was consumed, they "mourned" its demise, but consoled themselves that at least "it died with priestly assistance," and proceeded to open another one and another one! That evening they opened not only bottles of beer. They also opened their hearts to each other. Beer and good wine, taken in moderation is good. It can do wonders.

Cheers! Let's drink to that!

* * *

The Cana incident reminds us that Jesus was not a killjoy. He knew and enjoyed good company, good fun and good wine.

In my ministry, I have always followed Jesus' approach of "being with" and "bringing up." Unless we really immerse ourselves with the people, we cannot help bring them up. Jesus appreciated the human condition. He did not condemn or scorn it. He embraced it all and elevated it to something more beautiful. He turned water into wine, and wine into His blood.

We too are all invited to accept our realities and elevate them to possibilities. Like Christ, the Christian always points to something, to someone greater than you and I. In other words, the Christian points, but not to condemn or accuse, *makapili*-style. He always points to an omnipresent and omnipotent God.

* * *

Beer drinkers out there, I'm one with you in thanking God for one of the best concoctions in this world. *Mag*-beer *muna tayo*! I highly recommend B-E-E-R every day:

B for Bible. Be nourished with God's Word every day. (Don't miss the Daily Gospel in the INQUIRER every day!)

E for Eucharist. Going to Mass or visiting the Blessed Sacrament is very refreshing and invigorating.

E for expressions of love. Never let a day pass without expressing your love to your Creator and people around you.

R for the rosary. Consecrate everything to the Blessed Mother and be assured of her motherly protection and intercession.

Mag-BEER muna tayo! Cheers!

* * *

Let us pray earnestly that our senator-judges will vote not for personal and political gain, but out of conviction and conscience. May they have a conscience clear as water and conviction as stable and constant like wine. Cheers to all who promote justice and truth. The Kingdom of God is slowly but surely gaining ground. Rest assured, goodness will triumph!

* * *

I'm looking forward to three days of being one and being with my SVD confreres at the Divine Word Seminary (Jan. 15, 16, 17) for our Provincial Chapter and Assembly. It is good to go to a quiet place to relax, reflect and renew together. In the thick of the grindsparks (work), and the flashbulbs (socials), let us not miss the candleglow, the moments with God, moments with people we love and people who love us.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to blend the grindsparks, flashbulbs and candleglow moments in my life. Amen.

Evil in our midst

COMMENTARY

Lourdes Didith V. Mendoza
Institute on Church and Social Issues

LAST Dec. 30, fear and sadness overwhelmed me as I saw the body of a young child lying helpless on a hospital bed. One of his legs had been amputated. Amid his obvious pain, he was crying out for his father.

My heart was in my throat as I witnessed that scene on television. Hours earlier, I was out, enjoying what was left of the holiday season, when suddenly the news broke that a series of bombings had taken place in Metro Manila. It all happened in a span of two hours, starting at noon, and left 15 innocent people dead, and close to 100 injured. The boy left with one leg was one of its innocent victims.

That Saturday, a veil of darkness covered Metro Manila, and when the smoke cleared, people in high places pointed fingers.

This finger-pointing further divides the nation. Unlike in the movies, we cannot just ask, "Whodunit," and make wild guesses. Nobody can assume their answers are closest to the truth. We also should not accuse others for this tragedy. This, as the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines said, only adds to the confusion and anxiety already gripping the nation.

There were also some who visited the wounded. But it is one thing to visit them in the hospital, and another thing to serve and protect them quietly and honestly. The latter is a virtue, the former, a display of charity, which may not be charity at all.

The country was dealt another blow that Black Saturday. And to think it all happened on our national hero's day. Just when we are looking for heroes in these sordid times, heartless men wreak havoc and sow fear in our hearts. The better to cloud our vision perhaps, and to stop us from seeking what is true and good?

Whatever the intentions of the perpetrators were, we should not stop our search. Let us not give them the satisfaction of seeing us locked up in our homes, quivering in fear. Now, more than ever, is the time to be brave. We should pressure the authorities to hasten their search for the suspects. We should also ensure that they are put behind bars where they can do no harm and where they rightfully belong.

Now is the time to be heroes, because there seems to be no hero in our midst right now. I can still recall a time when this country was bursting with heroes. Young as I was during the Edsa Revolution, I knew that I was surrounded by heroes then. Starry-eyed, I looked up to all those men and women who bravely took to the streets to fight for what was good, not just for themselves, but I felt, for me, too.

But I also remember the fear. Three years before the Edsa Revolution, I used to hear my elders discussing issues I could not understand. Yet somehow, it dawned on me that something evil was lurking everywhere, especially when I saw that man in white with huge spectacles on TV. He was alive one minute, and in the next, his lifeless body was being dragged across the tarmac. I felt so scared and helpless over the thing that I saw yet could not understand. I just felt that evil had won.

Today, I feel the same fear. It is much like being in a small room where darkness slowly seeps in, gradually engulfing everything in sight.

But there is still hope. Just as the people during Ninoy Aquino's time learned the hard way what courage is, so can we. The sight of all those people lining up to pay homage to a man who once said that we are worth dying for can be repeated and will be repeated. It had to take the death of one man to kindle the fire for peaceful change. I don't think many of us will wait for more bloodshed before we move. One life is enough. Sadly, we lost many more lives during the bloody last weekend of the year 2000.

And so it still is the same way today. The battle between good and evil rages on. The death toll rises, and all sorts of feelings are heightened. And as always, there is fear.

It is this fear that can stop us from pursuing our goals—of providing our country with a decent government with a capacity to discern what is right and wrong, to really serve us as we ought to be served. It can also stop us from finding out who was behind that spate of bombings. This fear can stop us from being heroes once again.

We should defy the fear that these bombers tried to instill in us. We should be indignant, angry even, that they hatched this plan with the intent to kill. We are their targets.

So let us stop looking for heroes beyond ourselves. Let us do our share in fighting the evil in our midst by living our lives with dignity. Never cowed into submission, never gagged. We should be vigilant, because some people have a united, demented mind to pursue their own plans without regard for our lives.

In a sense, we are like that little boy who lost his leg. We are weak, yet still alive and able to fight. And like him, we should also cry out to our Father in prayer, to guide us in our battle for good versus evil, even in the midst of pain.

Erap's 'Last Farewell'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

IF Jose Rizal were alive today, what would he think of the ongoing impeachment trial? And how would he put down in words his thoughts about the antics and drama, the comic moments as well as the tension-filled testimony?

Some anonymous writer or writers has dared taken on what an American lawmaker once described as the "literary masterpiece of the Filipino race," an epic poem the lawmaker read in the halls of Congress to demonstrate that we are a civilized people and don't need American colonial rule, however benevolent.

The lawmaker was overruled, but that doesn't detract from the power of "Mi Ultimo Adios," Jose Rizal's immortal "Last Farewell" or "Huling Paalam." I just hope this "remake" doesn't do to the masterpiece what history hasn't been able to do—degrade our national hero's words.

Anyway, for whatever it's worth, here's the contemporary take on "Mi Ultimo Adios," some wishful citizen's fantasy of what Erap will say upon conviction, resignation, ouster or surrender:

* * *

HULING PAALAM
Ni Joseph "Jose Velarde" Estrada
(Pasintabi kay Dr. Jose Rizal)

Adios bayang aking pinagnakawan,
Paalam bayang binusabos ng aking mga kaibigan.
Mutyang dinusta't hinalay ni Atong Ang.
Aalis akong batbat ng puna't kahihiyang
Isinabit ni Chavit, alang kwentang tsokaran!

Sa malawak na lansangan mula Edsa't Mendiola,
Sambayanang galit ay nag-aalsa na,
Sumisigaw silang ako'y mag-resign na
At kung magmamaangas ako'y sisipain nila
Sa kangkungan pupulutin tila mabahong basura.

Akoy namamaalam upang dilira ay mapawi,
Sa bayang ito na sobra nang sawi.
Baka sakaling ekonomya'y makabawi
Kapag nawala na mga barkada't kroni,
At mga kalaguyong kagaya ni Laarni.

Simula't sapul ako'y may simpleng pangarap
Kuwarta't babae, mga mansion ako'y makakalap
Kaya naman lubos-lubos aking pagsisikap.
Walang inatupag kundi ang pangongotong,
Sa huweteng at two-ball, Abu Sayaff at kuratong.

* * *

KAYA nang nahalal na maging pangulo,
Tinipon ang barkada, kakosa't kalaguyo
Tuwing hatinggabi sa pag-uuntugang baso
Tampok sa usapan paano mapagkwartahan
Buwis sa tabako, negosyo at pasugalan.

Ngunit lintik ka Chavit, bakit mo ako isinabit?
Himutok ng dibdib lalong naging masakit
Nang nabistong si Atong pala ay nangupit.
Programa ko sa pabahay tuloy ay nabisto
Di sa mahihirap, kundi sa mga kabit ko.

Pa-impeach-impeach pa kayo, 'nong akala n'yo?
Sa Senado kaya kayo ay mananalo?
Sa impeachment trial di kayo nakasisiguro
Gaano man kabigat ng saksi ng prosekyusyon
Alang kwenta lahat pagdating ng resolusyon.

* * *

KUNG gusto'y pangalanan ko pa aking mga kabig:
Si John at Tessie na lisa ang bibig,
Tig-sangmilyong balato, ayos na ang buto-buto
Alang kaduda-duda kung kangino sila boboto.

Naririyan si Miriam, aking pambato,
Hindi umuurong kahit na kangino,
Huwag lang sindakin ng biglaang demo.
Si Manong Johnny Enrile at bataang Honasan
Mga kakamping lagi kong maaasahan.

Si Nikki Coseteng na umalis kunwari,
Tulad ni Tatad na sa partido ko'y bumatsi
Ngunit yan ay bahagi lamang ng panlalansi
Sina Kit (Tatad) at Nikki (Coseteng) tiyak sa akin papanig
Sa katotohanan ay hindi sila makikinig.

Kay Tito Sotto ay tiyak-tiyak na ako,
Kay Ka Blas (Ople) ay hindi rin ako kabado,
Kay Ramon Revilla, itaga n'yo na sa bato.
Si Jawo ang dapat na bantayan ng kalaban.
Kapag nag-three point shot, tapos na ang laban.

Yang impeachment ay para ring sugalan,
Numero lamang ang pinaglalabanan.
At sa numero't sugal kami ay namber wan,
Tiyak na tiyak ako sa aking labing-isa,
Kahit na anupamang gawing balasa.

* * *

NGUNIT ang aking lubos na ikinakaba
Ay ang lansangang dumadamba.
Protesta ng sambayanan patuloy na rumaragasa
Sigaw ng mamamayan dapat ay mag-resign na,
Patatalsikin kapag di kusang bumaba.

Nasaan na kayo mga dati kong kasangga?
Ano't iniwan akong nagdurusa?
Atong Ang, nasaan ka hayop ka?
Pareng FPJ, parang awa mo na,
Saklolo Danding, Tan, Maceda, Imelda at iba pa.

Kaya bago abutan ng bayang nagngangalit
Baka sakaling pupuwede pang makapuslit.
Paalam masang aking pinagtaksilan,
Paalam sa bayang pinangakuan ko ng kasaganaan,
Bakit kasi kayo naniwala sa aking islogan?

Paalam na rin sa iyo Loi, aking namber wan
Alam ko namang tiyak na ako'y iyong iiwan.
Jinggoy, Jude, JV, mga anak sa loob at labas,
magpaalam na rin kayo.
Mga kroni, kakosa, kainuman, kasugalan, kalaguyo
Pare-pareho na tayong pupulutin sa kangkungan!

The spirit of citizenship

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

FORMER FINANCE Secretary Edgardo Espiritu did not have to testify at the impeachment trial. He is not a principal witness in any of the Articles of Impeachment. But with courage and determination, he did. He came out to say what he knew about the President. It was, he said, a matter of conscience, of love of country and of concern for the next generation.

I believe him.

His testimony carries great weight because as the most important member in the original Estrada Cabinet, he was in effect telling the nation what kind of person Joseph Estrada has become since he assumed the presidency. The man he helped become President acted like a little boy counting his marble winnings, seeing everything in narrowly personal terms, completely unmindful of his responsibilities.

It was clear that Espiritu knew so much more than he was prepared to say. Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. needled him about the seeming inconsistency of his courage when he hesitated to give out the names of suspected smugglers who, Espiritu said in an aside, were always with the President. Sen. Raul Roco pressed the issue by asking him to explain why he appeared to be afraid of smugglers but not of the President. Sen. Ramon Revilla, hero of countless macho movies, sensing that Caviteño manhood, if not the honor of their clan, was being put in doubt, stood up and commanded Espiritu, his nephew, to speak up.

When finally the witness spoke, every sound seemed like it was being wrung from a conflicted soul. He said he would name the smugglers he had seen in the company of the President if the court thought this was important. But before he could say another word, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago intervened. In a moment of redemptive splendor, she told the court that it was unfair to compel the witness, already under severe stress, to respond to a question whose answer could endanger his life. This touch of kindness was a light in a chamber that had been darkened by relentless combat. But it was all the more extraordinary because it came from someone who, just days before, imperiously asked the court to expel from the gallery three spectators she had unfairly accused of disorderly conduct.

Espiritu's problem was not fear as it was the pain of having to testify against a friend whom he trusted implicitly and actually helped to become President. Indeed, they had a falling out. But it was one thing to sever relations with the President, and another to turn against him. The President had not threatened him. He did not have a political career to promote. He could enjoy retirement from public life, away from the problems that seem to permanently afflict this hapless country.

He feared for his family. According to him, not a few friends and relatives had counseled him to stay away from a brawl that the President was sure to win anyway. The President himself called him in December to subtly remind him of their friendship. An inferior person would have chosen the path of least resistance and kept his silence. But Espiritu shirked prudence and personal ties to follow his conscience. That, to me, is citizenship.

It is what we have seen throughout the impeachment trial: a nation that is finding its voice through courageous witnesses so that it can speak the unspeakable. Defenders of President Estrada say that the prosecution has treated the impeachment complaint as if it were a work in progress. They are right, but how can it not be? At the time it was filed, the case against Estrada had no chance of even getting past the House of Representatives. Part of the evidence was in the form of newspaper clippings. No one knew if there were citizens out there who would testify. But solid evidence and intrepid witnesses have dropped from heaven. And today we are on the verge of convicting the President.

A nation must call upon the spirit of citizenship in order to impeach a powerful President who had violated his oath of office. Citizenship, however, is not a finished product; it is a work in progress. It evolves each day from our own personal struggles and defining moments.

Former Speaker Manuel Villar had his epiphany when, staking his own position as speaker, he cast his lot with the tiny impeachment bloc in the House of Representatives. Senate President Franklin Drilon knew he would be in trouble the day he decided to show up at a rally calling for the President's resignation, and indeed he lost his job. Rep. Joker Arroyo underwent what must have been a wrenching transformation from being a senatorial bet in the administration party, chosen no less by the President, to become the prosecution's most articulate leader. Emma Lim, Rufo Colayco and Clarissa Ocampo are shining examples of the rebirth of citizenship in a time of demoralization. So is Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, the President's buddy who opened up a can of worms. They are human, too; they are not unafraid, and they are torn by divided loyalties. But something great moves them. There are many more like them, Filipinos who decide at one point that life is nothing if it is not lived for an ideal.

Espiritu is the synthesis of all these reborn Filipinos who have found their way through the dense system of corruption, patronage and political power to answer the call to citizenship. To them we owe the nation we are still trying to achieve. They give courage and hope to young people like Ma. Jazmin Banal, who gave up a high-paying job as a junior lawyer assigned to set up dummy corporations for a corrupt President in order to remain true to the noble goals of her profession.

Espiritu is right: It is for the sake of the next generation that we must speak up.

* * *

Comments are welcome at rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Estrada should take the witness stand

OUTLOOK

Rigoberto Tiglao

THERE'S just no escaping it. President Estrada has to take the witness stand. He owes it to himself and to the country. He just can't make the lame excuse that it's the decision of his lawyers.

It's no longer his lawyers' decision. The nation and the economy have been held captive for nearly a month by Estrada's impeachment trial.

The prosecutors have presented witnesses from totally different backgrounds—from Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, to professional bankers and stock market executives, to former Securities and Exchange Commission Chair Perfecto Yasay and former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu. They've all testified that they witnessed Estrada either commit or admit to the crimes alleged in the Articles of Impeachment. All of the witnesses surmounted pressures for them not to testify, and have even risked their lives and those of the members of their families.

It's their word against Estrada's. But Estrada hasn't really uttered any word in his own defense.

All we've heard are the blanket denials in his speeches and in "ambush" press interviews. The only time he agreed to answer specific questions was at the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines' luncheon last month—when he in fact admitted that the P200 million Singson alleged were part of the *jueteng* protection money which was deposited in the Erap Muslim Youth Foundation he had organized. Except for his incriminating statements at that luncheon meeting, which the prosecution has presented as evidence, not a single word of his denials has been entered into the impeachment trial.

The impeachment trial is indeed a political exercise in legal form. That means that legally, Estrada himself has been silent on the accusations against him. And silence, by all jurisprudence, is an admission of guilt. US President Bill Clinton was man enough to face his accusers, to answer questions even on his sexual life, and even before the impeachment could get underway.

The excuse that the President of the Philippines cannot allow himself to be humiliated by taking the witness stand as if he were a common criminal has become ridiculous. After all, as former Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia, who now heads one of the biggest financial enterprises in the country, put it, "The presidency now is an embarrassment to the nation and to the world."

Indeed, going by the results of the latest Social Weather Stations survey, a huge majority of Filipinos, 81 percent, want Estrada to "personally testify" to defend himself.

* * *

It was the BW Resources scandal in October 1999 which actually convinced the business community that this administration could push the country to disaster before it ends in 2004. Lucio Tan and Eduardo Cojuangco—the usual suspects for cronyism—didn't actually worry businessmen. After all, they were already tycoons who had really built their empires during the Marcos administration. Rumors of corruption weren't really worrying at that time; after all this had practically become part of the Philippine government culture.

The BW Resources scandal though raised a loud warning bell for the business community for two reasons.

First, yes, Dante Tan may already have been a billionaire with his business importing cheap tires. However, he wasn't at all in the league of the country's tycoons. Yet he was building up fast what would have been the biggest gaming firm in the country—with his only edge being his closeness to Estrada. He was even fond of bragging (and we were ourselves witness to such an incident) that Estrada never fails to return his calls, even in the wee hours of the morning.

The crony charge against Estrada that started snowballing last year didn't really refer to the likes of Lucio Tan and Cojuangco. It referred to obscure businessmen, drinking buddies of Estrada since his San Juan days, the likes of Dante Tan, Jaime Dichaves and Lucio Co—the names which are being mentioned in the impeachment trial.

Second, and more importantly, the venue for wealth generation for this crony was the stock market. Yes, the stock market has its mafia of market manipulators which included what Dante Tan himself called the "Black Samurai" group. However, what the business community thought alarming was the perception that this crony firm—and Estrada himself, based on former Finance Secretary Espiritu's testimony—was making money by manipulating the stock market, purportedly one of capitalism's most advanced institution.

* * *

I WAS among those who were surprised of Edgardo Espiritu's appearance as witness in the trial. We talked to him briefly in December, after he arrived from the United States where he has been spending most of the time after he resigned his Cabinet post. He didn't give a hint at all that he would be a witness. He had even mentioned that when he talked to Estrada for the last time, after his resignation post, the President tried hard to convince him to stay in the Cabinet.

With his intricate knowledge of the Estrada administration and his contacts in banking circles, he could just have secretly provided important leads and information to the prosecution panel to bolster their case. If he felt he shouldn't risk anything by testifying, he could have asked his close friend, Rep. Joker Arroyo, to convince the prosecution panel not to call him as a witness.

I asked him why he took the trouble of attending the impeachment trial. For several days, he was even sitting at the front row of the gallery.

"This is very important," Espiritu said. "The future of our country, of our democracy is at stake." That's the slightly longer version of his terse answer when a senator asked him why he was testifying: "For God and country."

* * *

WE also take our hats off to journalist Emmie Perez, a good friend of ours, whose testimony corroborated Perfecto Yasay's. Emmie is one of the most upright and professional journalists in the country, and he gave his testimony with full candor and confidence. It's insulting to our profession that Sen. Ramon Revilla in his question to Emmie seemed to assume that journalists routinely get bribed to write their articles. We hope though that after Emmie's testimony, he doesn't get into trouble in the paper he works for, The Tribune, one of the most unabashedly pro-Estrada newspapers around.

* * *

Comments: rtiglao@inq7.net

THEY SAID

Ready for succession

"When one runs for vice president, one knows that one must always be prepared to become president."
—Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

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IN DEPTH

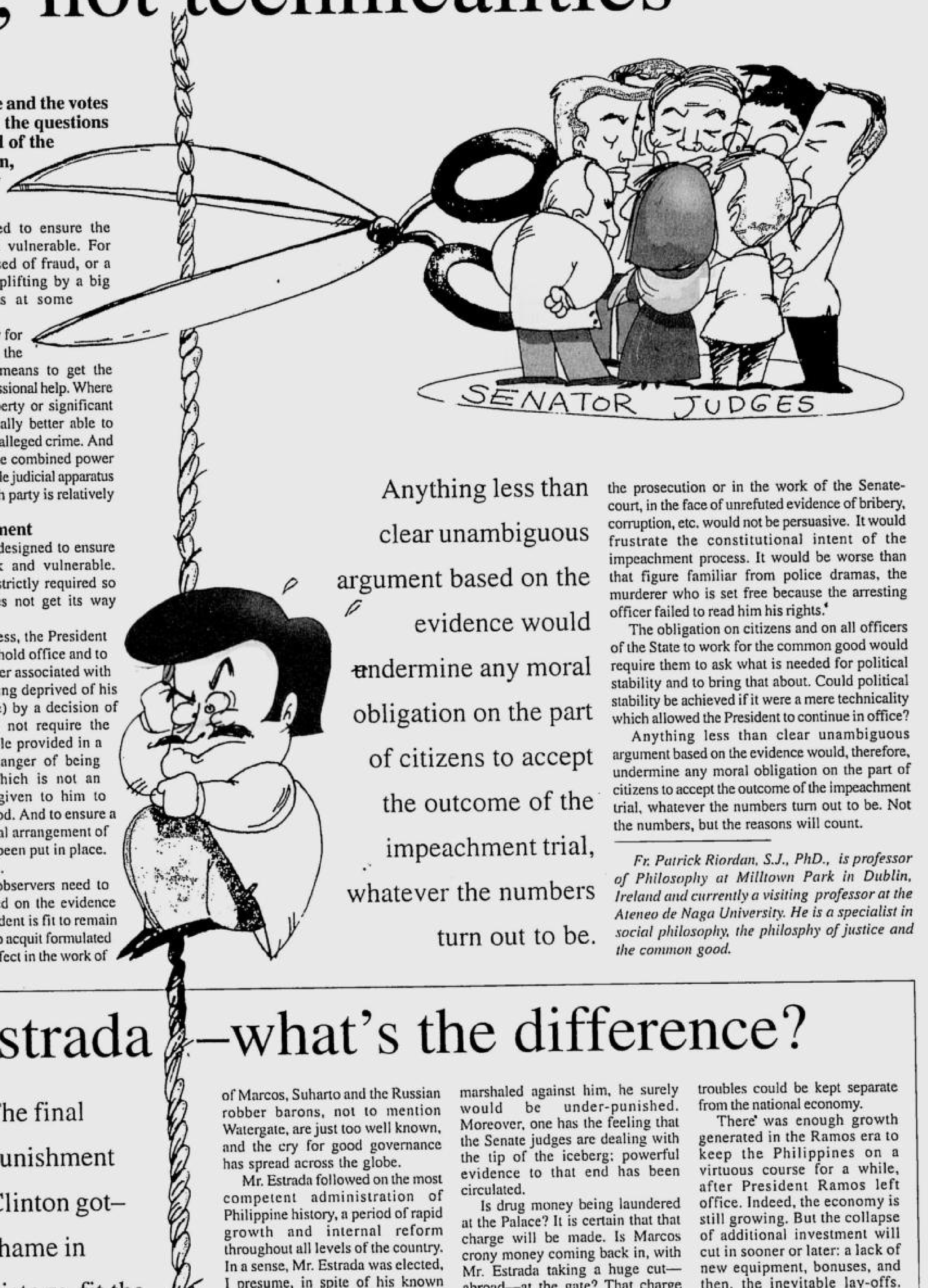
LEAH P. MAKABENTA, Editor

IMPEACHMENT: THE VIEW FROM OUTSIDE

1. Reasons, not technicalities

BY FR. PATRICK RIORDAN, S.J.

AT THE end of the impeachment trial there will be a vote and the votes will be counted. But already numbers are featuring in the questions people are asking. What number constitutes one-third of the senators? Which senators are likely to vote for conviction, which likely to vote for acquittal? Commentators are already speculating on the likely tally.



In a real sense, however, the numbers don't count. The senator-judges are not members of a jury who will vote to determine the view of the jury. They are judges. Each one of them is a judge obliged to form a judgment on the charges against the President. Each senator-judge will have to stand up and give her or his reasons for the judgment formed. What reasons will the senators give for their judgments? Not the numbers, but the reasons matter.

As yet, the prosecution has not completed its presentation of evidence and the defense has not yet made its case. The evidence is not all in and not all sifted. But at the end of the process each senator-judge will have to form a judgment, and will have to pronounce that judgment in the court. What reasons they will give for their various positions is of paramount importance.

Because of the intense media coverage of the impeachment trial, the whole country, and indeed, concerned people outside the country, will be watching closely. In that moment, as each senator-judge pronounces her or his judgment, she or he will be judged. Not only must justice be done, justice must be seen to be done. Concerned citizens and interested friends of the Philippines, including investors, will have to be persuaded by the senator-judges that the position they adopt is a reasonable and defensible one, based on the evidence.

No criminal trial

People are closely following the presentation of evidence. Is this evidence sufficient to convict the President? Citizens will have formed their own judgments and they will measure the judgments delivered by the senator-judges against their own. They will not be patient with any argument which attempts to acquit on merely technical grounds.

The impeachment trial is not a criminal trial. The legal technicalities appropriate to a criminal trial do not apply. Why is this so? Those technicalities are constructed to ensure the protection of the weak and vulnerable. For instance, an employee accused of fraud, or a poor person accused of shoplifting by a big commercial corporation is at some disadvantage.

Where the business can pay for all the legal advice it needs, the accused may not have the means to get the necessary legal and other professional help. Where the accused stands to lose liberty or significant assets, the corporation is usually better able to absorb the loss suffered in the alleged crime. And the accused appears to face the combined power of the injured party and the whole judicial apparatus of the State. It is evident which party is relatively weak in that situation.

A clear judgment

The procedural rules are designed to ensure the protection of the weak and vulnerable. Formality in the process is strictly required so that the powerful party does not get its way without making a fair case.

In the impeachment process, the President is not weak but continues to hold office and to enjoy the advantages of power associated with it. He is not in danger of being deprived of his rights (liberty, property, life) by a decision of this court and so he does not require the protections for the vulnerable provided in a criminal court. He is in danger of being deprived of his office, which is not an entitlement, but a power given to him to exercise for the common good. And to ensure a fair process the constitutional arrangement of the impeachment court has been put in place. That is sufficient protection.

Citizens and interested observers need to hear a clear judgment, based on the evidence presented, whether the President is fit to remain in office or not. A judgment to acquit formulated in terms of some technical defect in the work of the prosecution or in the work of the Senate-court, in the face of unrefuted evidence of bribery, corruption, etc. would not be persuasive. It would frustrate the constitutional intent of the impeachment process. It would be worse than that figure familiar from police dramas, the murderer who is set free because the arresting officer failed to read him his rights.

The obligation on citizens and on all officers of the State to work for the common good would require them to ask what is needed for political stability and to bring that about. Could political stability be achieved if it were a mere technicality which allowed the President to continue in office?

Anything less than clear unambiguous argument based on the evidence would, therefore, undermine any moral obligation on the part of citizens to accept the outcome of the impeachment trial, whatever the numbers turn out to be. Not the numbers, but the reasons will count.

> Anything less than clear unambiguous argument based on the evidence would undermine any moral obligation on the part of citizens to accept the outcome of the impeachment trial, whatever the numbers turn out to be.

Fr. Patrick Riordan, S.J., PhD., is professor of Philosophy at Milltown Park in Dublin, Ireland and currently a visiting professor at the Ateneo de Naga University. He is a specialist in social philosophy, the philosphy of justice and the common good.

2. Clinton and Estrada—what's the difference?

BY W. SCOTT THOMPSON

NOT surprisingly, President Estrada and soon-to-be ex-President Clinton of the United States got on famously. Both share an enormously salient mark in their countries' histories as the first elected presidents to be impeached—and they share marvelously huge appetites. They share a style of governance too: not too careful with the details, always reaching for a mass base with which to outmaneuver any coalition arming against them.

Bill Clinton wasn't a movie star but he played his role always as a role and as if he had been a star, just like Mr. Estrada. One *big* difference: surely Bill Clinton fantasized—but aside from a few well-publicized incidents, could *only* fantasize—about living in the White House the way Mr. Estrada has so famously lived at Malacañang.

What if Mr. Estrada gets off, when the votes are tallied later next month? Can he govern as effectively as Clinton managed, between 1998 and now, in the more than three years remaining to Mr. Estrada?

Though I write as a Reagan-Bush appointee who never had much time for Clinton, I think there are several critical reasons why the American president succeeded where the Filipino probably can't.

The first is the difference in the extent to which the punishment fits the crime. What Clinton did with Monica Lewinsky is arguably nobody's business—though it was on company time and on company premises, as Democratic Sen. Joseph Lieberman famously pointed out.

Lying under oath is different. All he had to do was admit a mistake and move on. Hubris hit, he thought he could get away with this too, and he got caught again, wigged around with more lies, and got nailed.

Fitting the punishment

Still, impeachment was quite a high punishment. If conviction was indicated, as many of us thought it was, getting off wasn't so bad an outcome either. No Republican wanted Al Gore ensconced in the White House prior to 2001 in any case. And on reflection, conviction, for lousy private behavior, even lying under oath but in an area where life is filled with little lies, might have been too much.

President Estrada of course gets away with the life Clinton dreamed of and, until recently, nobody was complaining anyway. He won his election fair and square. But there comes a serious, fatal difference.

Mr. Estrada came to office when a new international mood against corruption had permeated the news media and popular discussion throughout the world. The legends of Marcos, Suharto and the Russian robber barons, not to mention Watergate, are just too well known, and the cry for good governance has spread across the globe.

> The final punishment Clinton got—shame in history—fit the crime without exceeding it; his supporters believe he was over-punished. An under-punished President Estrada would be dodging accusations that just won't stop coming.

Mr. Estrada followed on the most competent administration of Philippine history, a period of rapid growth and internal reform throughout all levels of the country. In a sense, Mr. Estrada was elected, I presume, in spite of his known defects, precisely because Filipinos demanded acceptance as they are, and Mr. Estrada in significant ways, in the strata that most vigorously supported him, represented that persona. That was surely understandable.

Out of touch

But the style that the President brought to Malacañang, now legendary in every capital, was just wildly out of touch with the new realities. It is as if Roman orgies were brought back onto the Palatine Hills, into the Quirinale itself, *after* the Italian fiscals had spent the 1990s locking up Christian Democrats for forms of corruption that throughout the Cold War had always been tolerated. Things had changed. But Estrada missed that point. It is as if he'd been on the moon.

My point is that the final punishment Clinton got—shame in history—fit the crime without exceeding it; his supporters believe he was over-punished. An under-punished President Estrada would be dodging accusations that, I believe, just won't stop coming.

If Mr. Estrada gets off—and there seems to be an unfortunate unanimity in the Philippines as to how that would be accomplished—against the overwhelming evidence that has been marshaled against him, he surely would be under-punished. Moreover, one has the feeling that the Senate judges are dealing with the tip of the iceberg: powerful evidence to that end has been circulated.

Is drug money being laundered at the Palace? It is certain that that charge will be made. Is Marcos crony money coming back in, with Mr. Estrada taking a huge cut—abroad—at the gate? That charge will be made, and at some point investigated.

Compelling difference

There is a final, and even more compelling difference. Bill Clinton was just smart enough to leave his populist ideology back in Arkansas when he went to Washington and asked the then most powerful man in the world—Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve—how to keep going the economic boom that was just starting.

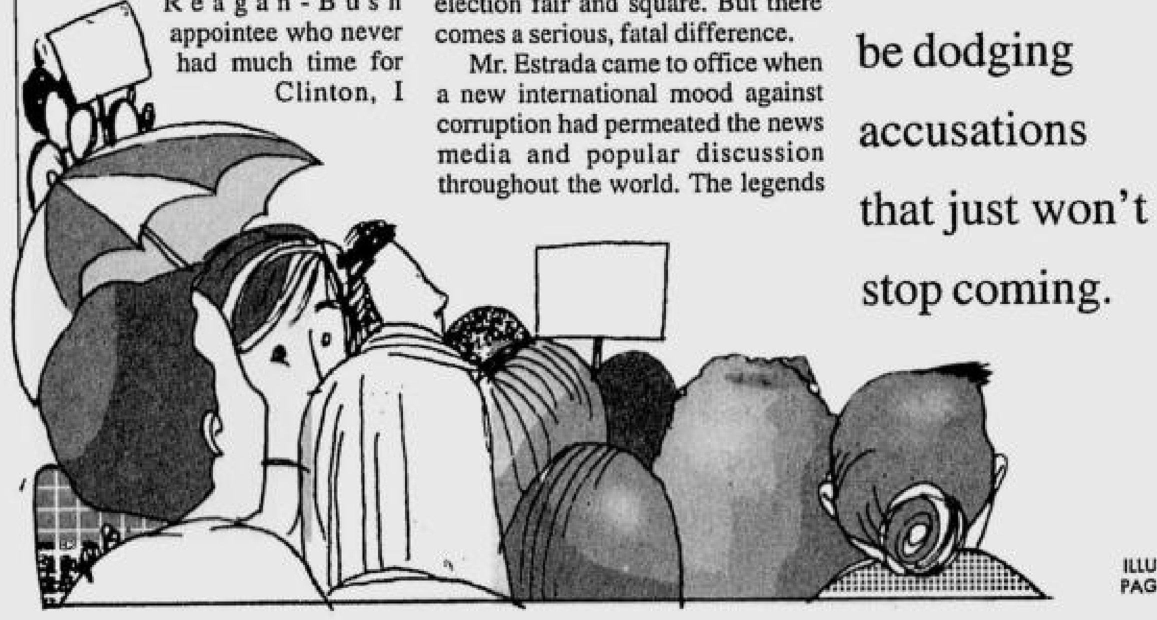
Clinton never deviated from the course prescribed—lowering the deficit, a conservative agenda—and the stock market multiplied five-fold; many, many trillions of dollars of leveraged wealth was created. Wall Street was big enough and separate enough to charge ahead quite separately from Washington's tawdry events.

Joseph Estrada is devastating the Philippine economy. A Third World economy's growth runs on investment—foreign direct investment. There was just no way President Estrada's troubles could be kept separate from the national economy.

There was enough growth generated in the Ramos era to keep the Philippines on a virtuous course for a while, after President Ramos left office. Indeed, the economy is still growing. But the collapse of additional investment will cut in sooner or later: a lack of new equipment, bonuses, and then, the inevitable lay-offs. And nothing is coming in at this point.

My guess is that President Estrada's real troubles—and the overwhelming pressures to resign—will truly get going at that point, when his base supporters no longer have jobs and have nothing better to do than demonstrate in the streets against a failed presidency.

W. Scott Thompson, D. Phil., is Director of Southeast Asian Studies at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, and Director of the US Institute of Peace. He served as Associate Director of the USIA in the Reagan administration. He resides in Washington, DC and Talisay, Batangas.



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The WORLD

MARGOT J. BATERINA, Editor

When will Kim Jong-il go to Seoul?

SEOUL—The reconciliation menu between North and South Korea is chock-full in the first quarter of 2001: talks on economic aid, Red Cross negotiations, another round of family reunions, mine-clearing in a strip of the Demilitarized Zone.

But there's a date missing on the schedule, a gesture that the South Korean government covets more than most other initiatives: a trip to Seoul by North Korean leader Kim Jong-il.

The current pace of rapprochement on the Korean peninsula is so plodding and prone to delays that the naysayers in Seoul and elsewhere maintain the process is losing momentum fast. A visit by the North's totalitarian ruler would juice it up, many agree.

But the heavily symbolic event might elude the South until at least the second half of the year despite an earlier prediction by its president, Kim Dae-jung, that Kim Jong-il would show up in the spring.

Speculation about the date has bubbled in South Korea since Kim Jong-il—head of one of the world's most isolated countries—promised a visit when he met the South's Kim in a historic June summit in Pyongyang.

KIM JONG-IL

Now a confluence of developments has muddied the outlook for a meeting that would help reassure the world that the communist North really wants to end the tense standoff with the South that has lasted since the 1950-53 Korean War.

The election of George W. Bush to the US presidency could mean at least a temporary slowdown in warming up ties between Pyongyang and Washington, a close ally of Seoul. Some analysts predict, too, that the new Republican US administration will be tougher on North Korea than its Democratic predecessor.

"North Korea must adjust relations with the Bush administration," said Koh Yu-hwan, a professor of North Korea studies at Dongguk University in Seoul. "Thus, the visit (by Kim Jong-il to Seoul) may be delayed until the second half of this year."

Kim Dae-jung has said he plans to travel to Washington soon to coordinate North Korea policy with Bush.

Koh said the two Koreas also might have widely divergent ideas about crafting an agenda for a summit, with the South pushing for a permanent peace treaty and the North angling for economic aid.

Another factor that could delay a visit is the disquieted state of the economy and politics in South Korea. The opposition has accused Kim Dae-jung of giving away too much aid and other perks to the North without demanding reciprocal gestures of friendship in return.

Now, North Korea could demand a hefty economic aid package as a condition for a visit by Kim Jong-il. His country endured famine in the 1990s that killed hundreds of thousands of people, and chronic food, electricity and medicine shortages persist.

But a push for more aid would come just as the South Korean economy is having jitters and its government is facing criticism for not moving fast enough on reforms devised during the 1997-98 Asian currency crisis. *AP*

Ex-President Reagan breaks hip in fall

REAGAN

SANTA MONICA, California—Former President Ronald Reagan broke his right hip in a fall at his home and will have surgery Saturday morning, his spokesperson said.

Reagan, who turns 90 on Feb. 6, was taken from his Bel Air home by ambulance to St. John's Health Center Friday, where he was resting comfortably, said his chief of staff Joanne Drake, who described it as "just a simple fall."

The former president's wife, Nancy, was taken with him to the hospital in the midafternoon, Drake said.

"He is fully alert, in good humor and in stable condition," she said in a statement.

Drake said the surgery would likely involve installing a pin in the hip.

Reagan disclosed in November 1994 in a passionate letter to the American people that he has Alzheimer's disease. America's 40th chief executive faded from public view a short time later and has been rarely seen outside his home.

He discontinued going to his Century City office in 1999 but still made trips to parks and enjoyed strolls on the Venice Beach boardwalk with his Secret Service contingent.

Drake said that Reagan's children were notified, including eldest daughter Maureen, who has been undergoing cancer treatments at the same hospital since Dec. 11.

An estimated 250,000 people, mostly elderly, break their hips every year in the United States, according to the National Institutes of Health.

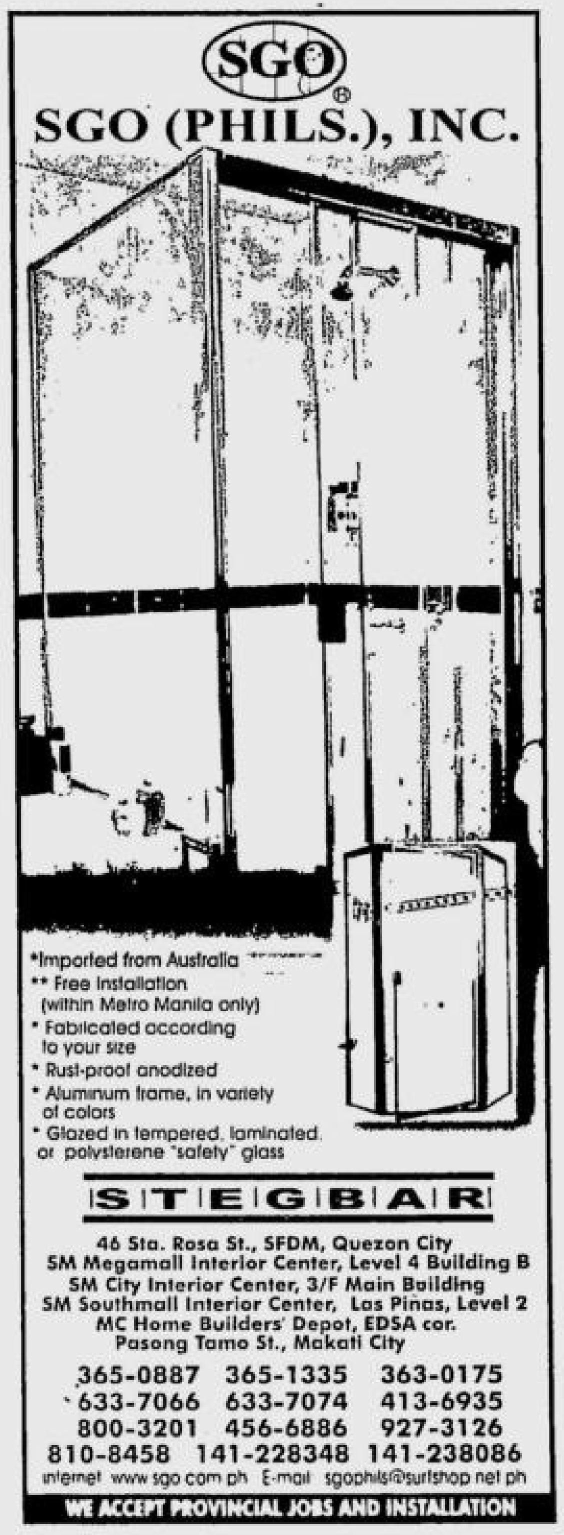
Only one-quarter of hip fracture patients make a full recovery and 20 percent die within a year, according to the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. Half of patients need a cane or walker, and 40 percent go from hospital to a nursing home.

Reagan was born in 1911, in Tampico, Illinois, and acquired the nickname "Dutch" as a baby. After college he began a career as a sports broadcaster, then jumped into acting in the 1937 film "Love is on the Air."

His movie career took off with the role of halfback George Gipp in "Knute Rockne, All-American," permanently associating Reagan with the coach's exhortation to "win one for the Gipper."

Reagan served multiple terms as president of the Screen Actors Guild starting in 1947 and then ran for California governor, beating Democratic incumbent Edmund G. "Pat" Brown in the 1966 election and winning re-election in 1970.

Reagan unsuccessfully challenged President Ford to be the Republican candidate in 1976, then emerged as the Republican frontrunner in 1980 against President Jimmy Carter. At 69, Reagan was the oldest man ever elected president on Nov. 4, 1980. *AP*



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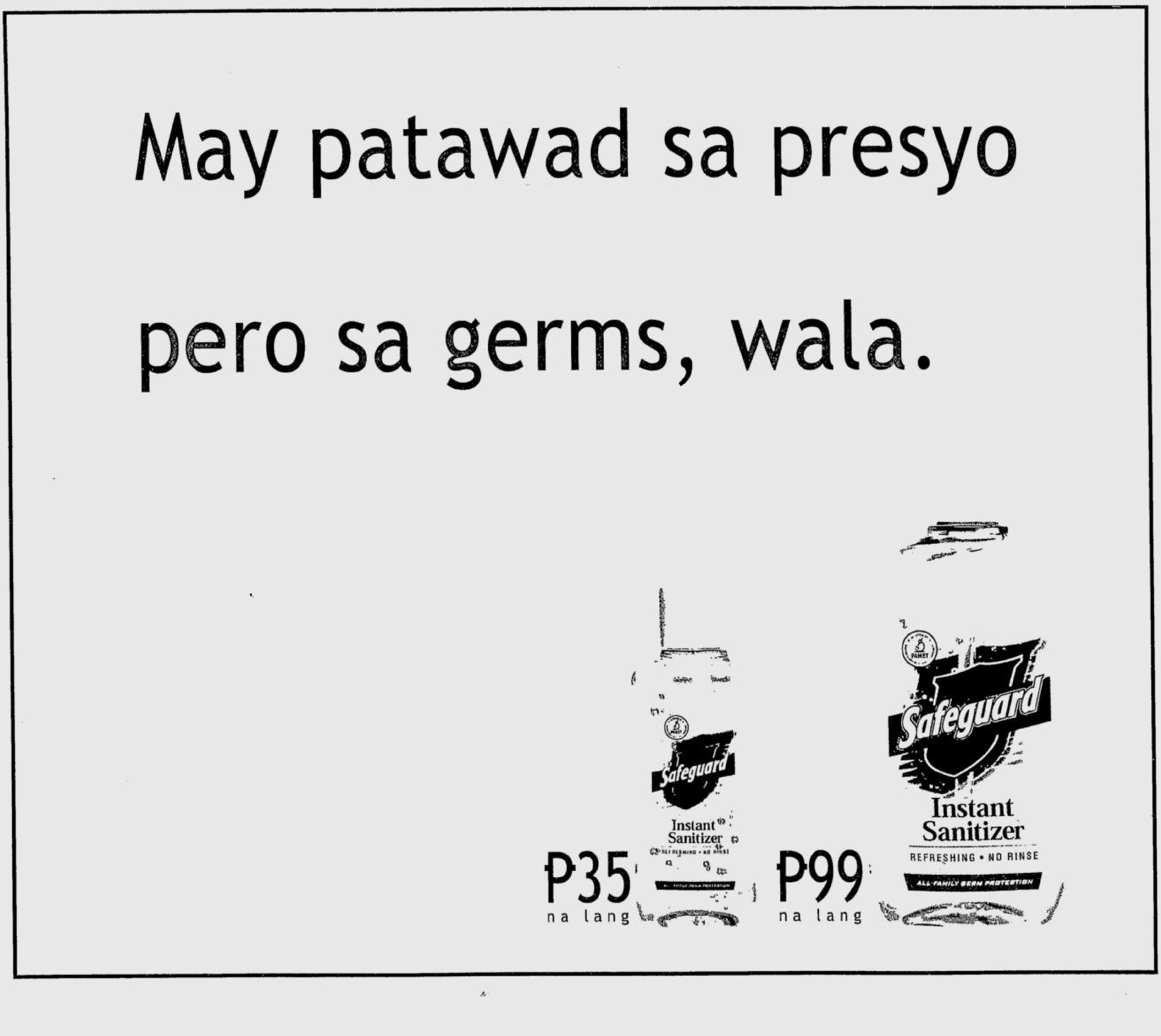


May patawad sa presyo

pero sa germs, wala.

P35 na lang

P99 na lang

HK deports 12 Falun Gong members

HONG KONG—Hong Kong has refused entry to 12 members of China's banned Falun Gong movement going to an annual meeting being viewed as a challenge to Beijing's local authority, a spokesperson for the group said Saturday.

Three of the members have already been sent back to their countries, and the rest are being detained at the Chep Lap Kok international airport, spokesperson Sophie Xiao said.

Of those who were put on return flights, two were from the United States and one was from Australia, she said.

"I think the immigration must have a list of Falun Gong members given by Beijing," another Falun Gong spokesperson, Hui Yee-han, said, noting that some of the detained had been arrested in previous demonstrations in China.

Hui said one of the detained followers, an Australian named Zhang Cuiying, would likely be deported later Saturday.

Zhang had been scheduled to speak at the meeting about her "horrifying experiences she had while under arrest in China last year," she said.

A spokesperson for a Hong Kong-based human rights group said that of the members still being detained seven were from Japan, three were from the United States, and two were from Australia.

Frank Lu of the International Center for Human Rights said the followers should "have encountered no problems" at the airport but that the detentions "may have been a warning to members not to do something bad in Hong Kong."

"The Hong Kong government has let them have this conference, so I think Beijing has influenced this crackdown," Lu said.

He added that many other Falun Gong followers were detained for several hours before being allowed into the territory over the past several days.

Immigration authorities at the airport would not comment on the cases.

Some 1,000 Falun Gong members from 20 countries are gathering here for the group's third annual meeting in the territory on Sunday.

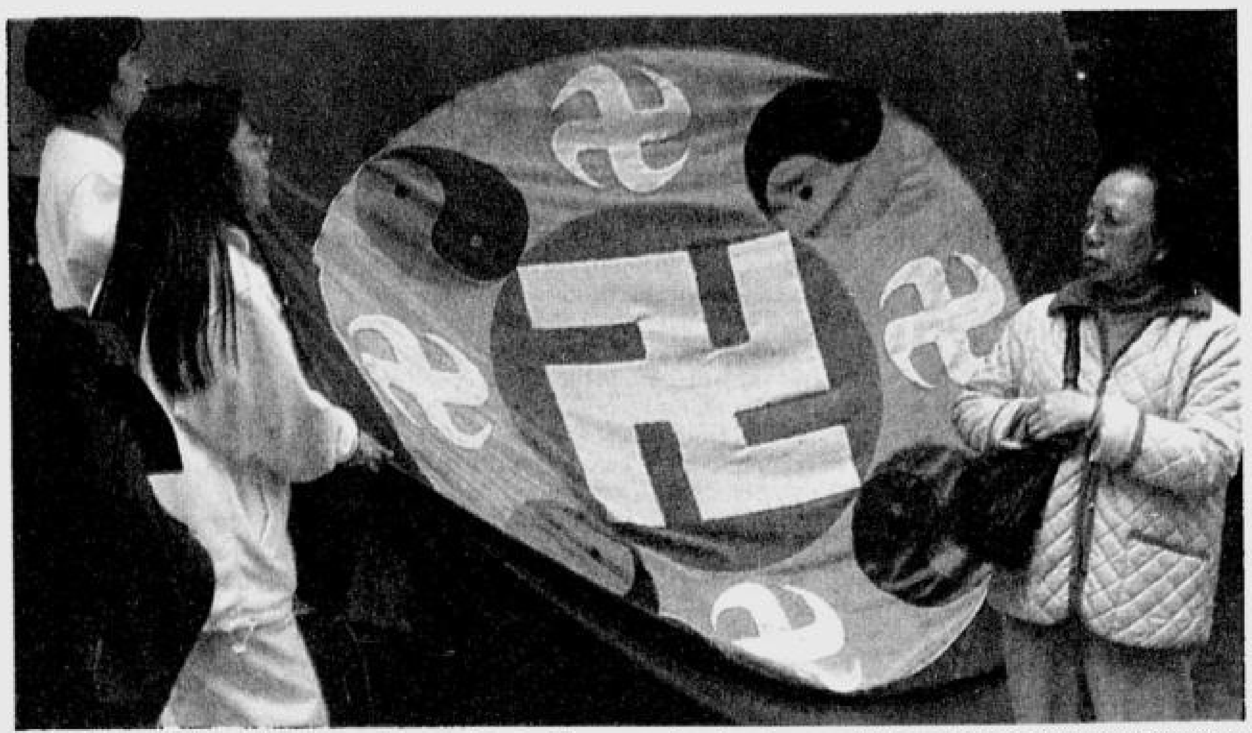
It is the first time the group has received permission to stage the event at a government building—City Hall—while the previous two were held at Hong Kong's Convention Center.

In the run-up to the meeting on Saturday, hundreds of Falun Gong practitioners staged a peaceful protest march through the central banking district to Beijing's liaison office.

Earlier in the day, some 100 followers practiced their meditation exercises at Hong Kong's Victoria Park.

They positioned themselves in groups to form the Chinese characters for "truthfulness," "compassion" and "tolerance"—the three core values of the sect—while others formed a frame around them.

The Falun Gong, which follows the Buddhist-inspired teachings of guru Li Hongzhi who lives in exile in the United States, will present a petition during their meeting asking Beijing to halt its persecution of the group. *AFP*



BEFORE several members were deported, Falun Gong members had a peaceful demonstration through downtown Hong Kong, Jan. 13. Shown are members carrying a banner with the sect's symbol during the march to protest alleged torture-killings of adherents by mainland police. AP

Margaret's condition improves

LONDON—Britain's ailing Princess Margaret, spending her third day in hospital, was eating better and was not in a critical condition, Buckingham Palace said on Friday.

A friend who visited her during the evening said there had been an "enormous improvement" in the princess's condition.

Margaret, 70-year-old sister of Queen Elizabeth II, was admitted to the exclusive King Edward VII hospital in central London on Wednesday because of a "severe loss of appetite."

It was thought she had eaten little since suffering a minor stroke over the Christmas holiday and friends said she was also depressed, which may have made her reluctant to eat.

The palace statement on Friday said Margaret "had another comfortable night in hospital and was eating better than before."

"Her doctors are continuing to assess the princess's condition but do not regard it as critical," it added.

The princess's children, Viscount Linley and Lady Sarah Chatto, spent 40 minutes at their mother's bedside. *AFP*

Thousands of rebs make more demands from Mexico gov't

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS CASAS, Mexico—Thousands of masked Zapatista rebels marched down the cobblestone streets of this tourist hub Friday to let President Vicente Fox know his recent actions to bring peace to Chiapas state are not good enough.

At the city's "Plaza de la Paz," or "Square of Peace," a masked Zapatista rebel woman read a letter signed by their leader, Subcomandante Marcos, reiterating that rebels will not bend on the three conditions they have set to restart talks with the government and end the seven-year conflict.

"There have been advances," Marcos said in the letter, with a Friday dateline from his hide-out in the Lacandon jungle. "But it appears that with these small advances, they want to fool us, as if everything was ready, as if talks and peace were very close at hand . . . as if the distrustfulness cultivated by (the previous) government's declarations could be wiped away with these few actions and more declarations"

Since taking office Dec. 1, Fox has closed three military bases near rebel strongholds, shut down 53 military checkpoints, eased limits on pro-rebel foreigners, freed nearly 20 Zapatista prisoners and presented a rebel-backed Indian rights measure to Congress.

Fox hopes to resume peace talks that broke down in late 1995 when the rebels accused the former government of breaking a promise to enact the Indian rights pact. Rebels led a brief uprising in the name of Indian rights in 1994.

Fox toppled the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, in July to become Mexico's first opposition president in 71 years.

While the rebels have welcomed Fox's moves, Marcos has demanded the closure of four other military bases, the release of more than 100 alleged political prisoners, and passage of the Indian Rights bill. *AP*

US warns of Mideast threats as Clinton's peace hopes dim

WASHINGTON—The United States on Friday warned Americans not to travel to Israel or the Palestinian territories due to increased terrorism threats as US officials expressed deep pessimism over the Middle East peace process.

"The US government has indications that there is a heightened threat of terrorist incidents in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza," the State Department said in a statement labeled "travel warning."

The department did not identify the source or nature of the "indications" but the warning was released as hopes plummeted for the completion of an Israeli-Palestinian peace accord before US President Bill Clinton leaves office on Jan. 20.

With only eight days left in his presidency and little apparent progress in Israeli-Palestinian talks, a somber Clinton, asked by reporters whether he had given up hope, replied gloomily: "No, but I've not tried to raise hopes either."

He insisted that he would keep trying to forge a deal, although he reiterated that only the Israelis and Palestinians could do so in the end.

"I'm working hard on it, but they have to decide," he told reporters at the White House.

Meanwhile, a planned trip to the region by special envoy Dennis Ross, postponed twice earlier this week, remained on hold, and one State Department official said rescheduling the visit was "extremely unlikely."

"There is no point in going out there and getting nothing," the official said on condition of anonymity after marathon talks between Israeli and Palestinians ended with no breakthrough and little result other than an agreement to hold two more days of talks.

Publicly though US officials refused to say their efforts were in danger of collapse and State Department spokesperson Philip Reeker made a point to applaud the fact that the meeting had taken place, saying the talks "were of a positive nature."

"They were talking, that in and of itself is something that we think is important and positive," he said.

But senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat said he believed there was no chance of pulling together any type of agreement based on Clinton's peace proposals as the gaps between the two sides were "still wide."

And Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak's security adviser Danny Yatom offered a sobering analysis of the most recent talks, saying: "At least the negotiations were not disastrous." *AFP*

CONNIE ON BILL'S HEALTH REUTERS

President Bill Clinton's physician Rear Admiral E. Connie Mariano (foreground) briefs the media on the results of the president's physical examination at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Jan. 12. Mariano's diagnosis: Clinton is in good health.

Noted physicist foresees nuclear calamity triggered by terrorism

BOMBAY—Well known physicist Stephen Hawking warned Friday that a nuclear calamity could be triggered by an accident or by terrorists capturing nuclear weapons.

"Russia and the United States are no longer so trigger happy, but they still have enough bombs to destroy everyone on the planet," Hawking told a press conference in Bombay, India's financial and film capital, where he attended a weeklong international scientific conference.

"Nuclear war is a danger we would have rather forgotten," he said and added that the risk increased with more countries acquiring nuclear weapons.

"Suppose there's an accident or terrorists get hold of them," he said.

In May 1998, India and Pakistan conducted a series of nuclear tests and joined the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China, countries who have openly declared their nuclear weapons status.

The author of the best-selling "A Brief History of Time," also cautioned that the human race would not survive another millennium if the green house effect become irreversible.

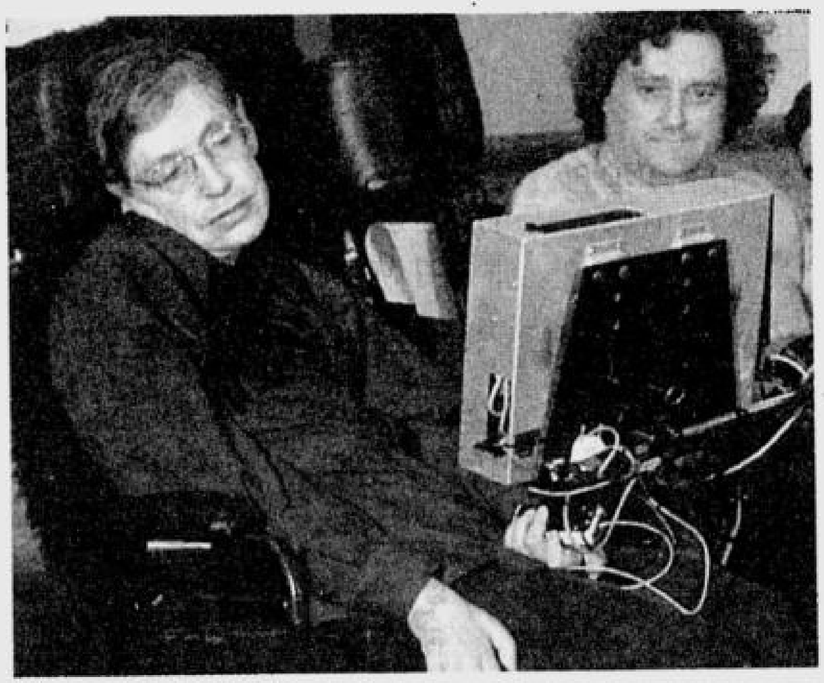
"We now have good evidence that the world is getting warmer. I'm worried that the green house may become irreversible and the atmosphere might become like that of Venus, raining boiling sulfuric acid," Hawking said.

Hawking called for stronger public opinion and urged people to look after the planet.

"If we don't the human race won't survive the next thousand years," he said.

The physicist, who celebrated his 59th birthday in Bombay Monday, was 21 when he was diagnosed as suffering from a motor neuron disease called amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

The condition attacks nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, leading to muscle weakness, paralysis and impaired speech. Progressive degeneration of the motor neurons eventually leads to death. *AP*



ASTROPHYSICIST Stephen Hawking (left) formulates an answer to a question during a news conference in Bombay, Jan. 12, as Paul Smith, director of the British Council, looks at the gadget attached to Hawking. REUTERS

Probers began excavation of Chile grave

SANTIAGO—Former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet submitted to a third day of medical tests Friday to determine his fitness to stand trial for human rights abuses.

Meanwhile investigators probed an unmarked grave believed to contain remains of those killed during his 17-year dictatorship from 1973 to 1990.

The remains of five or six leftist opponents of Pinochet are said to be interred at the burial site at Cuesta Barriga, some 40 km west of Santiago.

Chile's Supreme Court has ordered an investigation to begin with the excavation of the site, as new information on the fate of some 180 political prisoners who died at the hands of Chile's military was revealed.

Judge Hector Carreno is supervising the investigation, which aims to recover as many of the bodies of those victims as possible. The bodies of more than 150 of those killed were thrown into the Pacific Ocean or in lakes or rivers, according to information made public Sunday by President Ricardo Lagos.

Pinochet, accompanied by bodyguards, a personal physician and his daughter, Jacqueline, left his armored vehicle in a wheelchair and entered the Military Hospital here for a third day of medical tests.

Eight doctors conducted nine hours of psychological tests on the 85-year-old former dictator. He submitted to additional neural and psychological tests Friday, completing the set of court-ordered exams, said plaintiffs' attorney Carlos Barreaux.

Judge Juan Guzman Tapia is scheduled to question Pinochet Tuesday on murder and kidnapping charges relating to the "Caravan of Death," a series of summary executions in October 1973, the month after he took power in a bloody coup. The judge postponed the interrogation from Monday at the request of Pinochet's lawyers. *AFP*

Federal panel grills Florida state secretary on voting rights

TALLAHASSEE, Florida—Members of a federal commission investigating Florida's presidential election accused Secretary of State Katherine Harris of presiding over a "disaster" and trying to shift blame to others.

The US Commission on Civil Rights on Friday concluded a two-day hearing on what some described as voting irregularities in the state that decided the presidency.

Panel members said Harris failed to help county election supervisors and they criticized her for disparities in discarded ballots.

"It was a disaster for your state as well as for the rest of the country and the way people feel about having faith in the system of this country," panel member Victoria Wilson said.

The results of the Nov. 7 election were contested for more than a month until Republican George W. Bush was awarded Florida's 25 electoral, votes, and thus the White House. He beat Al Gore by 537 votes in Florida, but the count of votes was marred by recounts, court challenges and claims of disenfranchisement.

Some voters have said that blacks and others in Florida were deprived of their right to vote through incorrect purges of voting rolls, broken voting machines and other problems. The Madison County elections chief, Linda Howell, testified Friday that the state had mistakenly listed her as a convicted felon.

Harris, a Republican, deferred most questions to Florida's elections director, Clay Roberts, saying she had delegated him to run the day-to-day operations of her department's elections division.

Harris told the panel that her priority was ensuring the voting systems in the state are up to par.

"We want to make sure the will of every voter is self-evident," she said.

The commissioners weren't content with that.

"I don't know who's responsible—the supervisors are saying you're responsible, you're saying Mr. Roberts is responsible," Wilson said. "I'm on the merry-go-round called denial."

Chair Mary Frances Berry called Harris' description of her role in the election "laughable."

The panel will issue an initial report within 60 days. *AP*

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GRAND DRAW: April 25, 2001

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MONTHLY DRAWS: February 28 • March 28 • April 25, 2001

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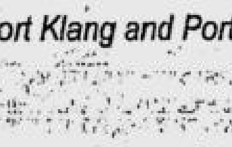

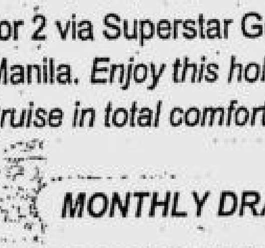

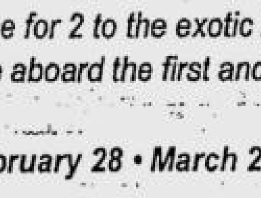

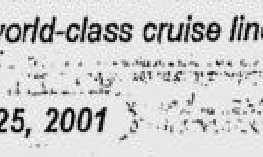

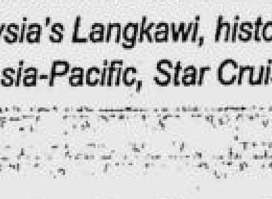

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1. Just buy any of the following:
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3. Put the completed entry together with the proof of purchase in any envelope with the promo title written outside the envelope and mail it to P.O.Box 117, Mandaluyong City. (Only 1 entry per envelope)
4. There will be three (3) Monthly Draws and a Grand Draw to be held at MUSIKAtbp! - Wednesdays, over IBC-13. Ten lucky entries during the Monthly Draws will receive either of the monthly prizes mentioned.
5. Non-winning entries for the Monthly Draws will be qualified to join in the Grand Draw.
6. One (1) lucky entry for the Grand Draw will have a chance to win the Grand Prize (Holiday Cruise for 2).
7. Passport processing and travel tax are not included.
8. All prizes are transferable, but not convertible to cash.
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10. All winners will be notified via telegram on how to claim their prizes. Winners' names will be published in a newspaper of general circulation.
11. Prizes unclaimed within 60 days will be forfeited in favor of the organizer upon prior approval of the BFAD.
12. Employees of Abbott Laboratories, Ultimate Entertainment, BSMG Worldwide and their relatives up to the second degree of affinity and consanguinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

Promo Period is from January 12,2001 to April 25, 2001

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

2-km walk vs cancer held today

DAVAO CITY—Cancer survivors, patients and caregivers will take to the streets today to express their concern over the growing number of cancer cases here and in neighboring provinces.

The "Alay Lakad Laban sa Cancer" (Walk Against Cancer) kicks off the cancer awareness campaign spearheaded by the Philippine Cancer Society and the Spiritual Medical, Information, Love, Economic Support para sa may K or Kanser (Smile) Foundation.

Dr. Danny Cristobal, president of Smile Foundation and survivor of stomach cancer, warned that the disease could become an epidemic in the next 10 to 20 years if nothing is done to curb its increase.

Records from the Department of Health showed that the number of cancer patients rose by about 30 percent in 2000 or 232 cases from 755 cases in 1999.

More women are affected than men. The DOH reported a total of 406 male cancer patients compared with 581 female cancer patients.

The department also reported that based on last year's consultations with oncology clinics in Southern Mindanao, the top cancer types monitored in the region are breast, colon, lymph, head and neck, ovary, and lung cancer.

Dr. Herminio Villano, president of the Philippine Cancer Society in Davao City, said his group was baffled by the sharp rise in the number of breast cancer patients.

Only one out of 16 women patients was found positive for breast cancer from the 1960s to the 1970s. Last year, one of nine women was found to have the illness, Villano said.

The closest possible cause of the increase in cancer cases has to do with the people's lifestyles, Villano said.

Those who often drink, smoke, consume more fat and expose themselves to carcinogenic elements are more vulnerable, he explained.

.The two-kilometer Alay Lakad will start from the DOH grounds at about 5:30 a.m. and will end at the Rizal Park with a rally.

Organizers are collecting P30 from the participants as donation to help poor cancer patients. *Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Pelaez son rescued in Iligan

Victim grabs gun of captor, fires shot to alert neighborhood

ILIGAN CITY—The son of former Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez was rescued by authorities yesterday in an apartment owned by a town mayor, 51 days after his abduction in neighboring Cagayan de Oro City.

Banker Enrique Pelaez, 49, managed to grab the 9-mm pistol of his guard and fired shots that alerted the neighborhood and the police.

Pelaez, managing director of Mindanao Development Bank, was seized on Nov. 23 in Cagayan de Oro. He was reported to have been brought to Lanao del Sur, prompting a police search reaching as far as Marawi City and even in Pualas, Lanao del Sur, officials said.

As it turned out, the victim was kept under tight guard near the Iligan City South Central School in Rosario Heights, a densely populated residential subdivision.

The apartment is owned by the family of Mayor Hanifa Ali of Baloi, Lanao del Norte. The mayor's husband Elias, also a former mayor of the town, told reporters that they did not know anything about the kidnappers' activities.

Two of the abductors were arrested. They were identified as Racman Mapandi Abi, 39, of Malabang, Lanao del Sur; and Mohammad Ayonan Acmad, 46, of Cotabato City.

Pelaez said he was able to grab the pistol of his guard and fire it, hitting his captor.

The gunshot alerted neighbors and the two other guards who rushed to the second floor where he was kept. The guards held back when Pelaez shot at the door.

Certain the neighbors heard the gunshots, Pelaez shouted: "*Ako tong na-kidnap nga taga-Cagayan!*"

Pelaez stepped out of the apartment when some 30 policemen and members of the Presidential Anti-Organized Task Force surrounded the apartment. The two guards reportedly did not attempt to fight it out with the police. Their firearms were inside a bag when police stormed the apartment.

"Praise God, we didn't expect he could escape today. We think this is divine intervention," said the victim's father, former Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez, in Manila.

Mayor Franklin Quijano said Pelaez's "presence of mind" saved him.

Pelaez said he was driving home late evening of Nov. 23 when another vehicle blocked his way. "They made it appear the vehicle was stalled, but I sensed there was something wrong."

Armed men then rushed to his vehicle, announced a kidnap, handcuffed and blindfolded him, and transferred him to their vehicle. Pelaez said he suspected he was brought to Iligan, some 90 kilometers away, because it took them only a little over an hour to reach the destination.

For three days, he was kept inside a nine-square-meter room without any windows. "It was so small it'll drive you crazy," Pelaez said.

Three days later, he was again blindfolded and driven to the nearby apartment where he spent the next 49 days.

The five abductors took turns in guarding him round-the-clock.

Pelaez said the kidnap leader was named Faisal. Police had earlier named Faisal Marohombsar as the head of the group that seized Pelaez. Marohombsar also led the abduction of a female doctor in Parang, Maguindanao, in May last year.

Pelaez said he was allowed only two telephone calls during his captivity to relay the ransom demand.

The kidnappers at first demanded P3.5 million, but the amount rose to as much as P100.000 as more people volunteered to negotiate.

Pelaez said he was treated well and given "healthy" food.

He said Christmas Day and New Year's Day passed almost unnoticed but he recalled how there was "special food" during the Eid'l Fit'r, the festivity ending the month-long Ramadhan, on Dec. 27.

'There was fruit salad and Coke," he said as he smiled.

Once a week, Pelaez was given a newspaper to read. There was no television, books or magazines.

On Thursday, a TV set was brought to Pelaez's room so he could watch the impeachment trial of President Estrada.

But Pelaez said he returned the TV set because he felt guilty of depriving his captors their only means of entertainment. "They were as miserable as I was," he said.

While being examined by a doctor yesterday, Pelaez told his mother Edith on the phone: "*Kumusta ka dyan, Ma*? Are you okay? I was worried about you. Me, I'm okay because they gave me healthy food."

Bobby Timonera, PDI Mindanao Bureau

PELAEZ calls up his mother while undergoing medical examination. BOBBY TIMONERA

ROUNDUP

3 die in bus accident

NAGA CITY—Three persons died and several others were injured when a bus going to Tabaco, Albay, turned turtle early Tuesday along Maharlika Highway in San Isidro, Libmanan, Camarines Sur. The three fatalities, who were pinned by the bus, have remained unidentified. Richard Cu, Isarog Lines owner, said an AMA Trans bus cut the lane of the Isarog bus with license plate No. NYW 936, forcing the Isarog bus driver to make a sudden swerve.

Juan Escandor, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Batangas port collections up

BATANGAS CITY—The port of Batangas posted a collection surplus of P1.1 billion, exceeding its target collection by 16 percent. Edward Baltazar, customs district collector here, said the performance was a significant improvement from the dismal minus-11 collection rate in 1999.

Arnel Avila, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Best in social service

LEGAZPI CITY—Pandan, a remote town of Catanduanes, was awarded Best Performing CIDSS (Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services) Municipality in Bicol for 2000. The search, an annual activity of the National Anti-Poverty Commission, aimed to recognize and encourage community efforts toward empowerment. Pandan Mayor Eulalla V. Verceles received the award, a P300,000 grant from the CIDSS program, and P200,000 more from President Estrada during a recent ceremony in Malacañang.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Habitat goes to Iriga City

IRIGA CITY—The Bicol Habitat for Humanity Foundation is initiating a housing project for the urban poor here. Habitat program administrator Malou Sambo said the foundation intended to build about 200 simple yet decent housing units with the participation of home-partners and volunteers and the use of donated construction materials. The city government is allocating a piece of land for the socialized housing project at Sierra Homes in Barangay Perpetual Help.

Helen Juanillas, PDI Southern Luzon

Indian arrested for son's death

CABATUAN, Isabela—Police arrested an Indian suspected of killing his 6-year-old son in Barangay San Andres here. Villagers told police that they saw Ranjit Singh Vanhan dropping his son, Ranjit Jr., along a highway, shattering the boy's head. Ranjit Jr., who was first believed to be a hit-and-run victim, died while being brought to the Ester Garcia Hospital in Cauayan town. Vanhan denied killing his son, blaming other people whom he could not identify.

Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

3 armed men rob bus passengers

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Three men armed with a .45 -cal. pistol and two hand grenades robbed passengers of a Manila-bound bus along the North Luzon Expressway in San Fernando town on Wednesday. The police said the robbers took P900,000 in cash, cellular phones, jewelry items and other personal belongings from the conductor and passengers of a Victory Liner bus at about 8 p.m. Reports said the gunmen alighted in Barangay Lawa in Meycauayan, Bulacan, and fled on foot.

Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk

40 cops face summary dismissal

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—At least 40 policemen in Central Luzon are facing summary dismissal for refusing to undergo physical fitness examination ordered by Philippine National Police officials last year. Chief Supt. Roberto Calinisan, Central Luzon police director, said the policemen, some of them officers, refused to join fitness activities initiated by the regional PNP in October.

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

UPCB prof awarded

BAGUIO CITY—An economics professor of the University of the Philippines College Baguio won second prize for her paper on gender and development during an international conference in Tokyo, Japan, on Dec. 11-13, 2000. Dr. Lorelei Crisologo-Mendoza received a research medal worth $5,000 and $5,000 cash for her paper titled "Gender, Households and Markets: Inherited Land and Labor Force Participation of Rural Households in the Cordillera Region, Philippines."

PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Students on field trip discover 2 mummies

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—High school students on a field trip have accidentally discovered two mummies in a cave in Kapangan town, some 75 kilometers from here.

The discovery of the two mummies in October is one of the rare instances when mummies are found outside of Kabayan, the cultural center of the Ibaloys.

Gov. Raul Molintas has sent a team to investigate the find at Sitio Balabag Tawang in Barangay Baleng-belis in Kapangan.

Molintas said officials of the Gov. Bado Dangwa Agricultural-Industrial School in Kapangan have sent him a photograph of the two mummies.

"We have to verify if their discovery is true," Molintas said.

The National Museum, however, said the province could not touch these mummies without its permission.

"These mummies in the caves are considered national cultural treasures. They should inform us first before they can investigate," said National Museum conservator Orlando Abinion.

Molintas has assigned the provincial government's community affairs officer, Bryan Camhit, to head the investigation team.

Camhit, who is from Kapangan, has reportedly contacted the National Museum about the find, but Abinion said the museum had not received any communication from the provincial government.

Abinion was responsible for the inclusion of the Kabayan mummy caves among the 100 most endangered sites in the world. The inscription through the World Monument Fund entitles a grant of at least $35,000.

Abinion said the money would be used for the preservation of the caves. The other sites in the Philippines are the Angono petroglyphs (rock carvings) in Rizal and the San Sebastian Church in Quiapo, Manila.

The Kabayans were thought to be the only Asians to practice mummification.

Unlike the ancient Egyptians, the Kabayans of old mummified their dead with their organs intact. The mummification involves month-long smoking of the dead and the application of herbs, salt and tobacco on the body.

The National Museum has made an inventory of mummy caves in Benguet. Fifty of the caves are found in Kabayan and 200 others in nearby towns in Benguet and Mt. Province.

It is not immediately known if the mummy cave at Baleng-belis in Kapangan was included in the inventory.

The students who found the cave said the site was hardly accessible. In their letter to Molintas, they said they had to hike for eight hours to reach the site.

Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Slain radioman buried in Aklan

KALIBO, Aklan—Slain broadcaster Roland Ureta was buried Friday at the Banga Municipal Cemetery here.

Ureta, 31, program director of radio station dyKR, was waylaid by at least two unidentified men on Jan. 3 while he was riding on his motorcycle along the provincial road at Barangay Bagto, Lezo town, 9 kilometers west of Kalibo.

He was struck down by five bullets fired from a .45 cal. pistol.

Members of the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas in Aklan and the Aklan Press Club have condemned the killing as an assault to press freedom. They have asked authorities to ensure a speedy solution to his murder.

Despite a P70,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of his assailants, police have been unable to find any lead to the identities of the killers.

Supt. Oscar Aycocho, Aklan police director, formed Task Force Ureta with the help of agents from the National Bureau of Investigation and the Presidential Anti-Crime Task Force.

Augusto Tolentino, station manager of the Radio Mindanao Network-owned dyKR, said the investigation was hampered by the lack of witnesses.

Odon S. Bandiola, PDI Visayas Bureau

Rajas' relatives fear for her life

BY JUAN ESCANDOR
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

VINZONS, Camarines Norte—A relative of Delia Ilan Rajas has expressed fears about the fate of the unwitting witness in the impeachment trial and her family following her Senate court appearance last week.

Fernando de Panes, Rajas' uncle and a church organizer, said his fear was heightened when her mother Dolores and her three children hastily went to Manila last year after her name floated in the Senate blue ribbon committee investigation.

De Panes said someone picked up Rajas' family members without even telling them their destination.

"There is still danger to their lives. Should she commit a mistake in telling what she knows, we don't know what will happen. We are poor and can be disposed (of) easily," he said.

THE "REAL" Delia Rajas

Rajas' father Claudio was a former fisherman from Mercedes town who went to Manila with his family and ended up doing menial jobs at a company called Hi-Cement in Pasig City.

When he died of lung ailment, the Rajas family went back to Camarines Norte and stayed in Sto. Domingo, Vinzons, where Delia grew up.

Delia is the fourth of seven siblings. Her siblings are Arlene, Bebot, Charito, Elsie, Fe and Gil.

Delia's husband, Diony Ibana, a security guard, died about five years ago after he was bumped by a car. The widow received a "large" sum in death claim, which she deposited in a bank.

De Panes said the P25,000 paid to Rajas was the only account she had. A woman, who was also identified as Delia Rajas, had opened an account with the Landbank branch on Shaw Boulevard in Pasig and withdrew some P40 million believed to be part of President Estrada's alleged kickback in tobacco excise taxes.

When her name surfaced last year after Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson revealed the alleged irregularity, Rajas' relatives said they firmly believed the woman could not be their Delia.

"We knew that she could not be the one involved in such a huge transaction," a female cousin, who declined to be named, said.

During the impeachment trial on Monday, Delia's relatives were shocked the "real" Delia Rajas was presented to the court by defense lawyer Sigfrid Fortun.

"I was almost sure that it was not her because I saw the picture on the identification card, which was presented until my niece was called to stand up," De Panes said.

He said it was unfortunate that his niece's name was being dragged into this transaction and resented that somebody was using her name.

De Panes said that whoever was involved in the tobacco tax scam must know her fairly well.

An unknown in the province, Rajas has become a sort of celebrity in Vinzons and Daet towns where the local media sought her relatives for more information about her.

But De Panes said the attention was uncalled for.

Estrada orders blunt fake cigarette probe

BAGUIO CITY—President Estrada has diluted the authority of the Bureau of Internal Revenue's excise tax division, thus crippling its probe of a counterfeit cigarette factory in Benguet, BIR officials here said.

Alexander Bigasin, a member of the BIR excise tax unit covering the Cordillera, Ilocos, Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon, said his agency was surprised by the issuance of two executive orders last year. The first strengthened the excise tax powers of the BIR, while the second virtually dissolved that BIR unit.

He said the directives inadvertently slowed down a multi-agency investigation of a fake cigarette factory in Tuba, Benguet, that was raided on Nov. 26 by the National Bureau of Investigation and other government agencies.

Betty Fangasan, city social welfare officer, urged the agencies on Thursday to apprise 13 former employees of the Tuba factory, all state witnesses, who now fear a "whitewash" of the investigation.

Bigasin said the presidential orders also crippled an impending review of tax incentives and exemptions being asserted by a Fortune Tobacco factory in Ilocos Sur, which is owned by tycoon Lucio Tan.

Officially, both cases are not directly related, Bigasin told the INQUIRER. But a BIR insider in Northern Luzon said bureau personnel believed that the Tuba factory could be one of the many satellite-manufacturing facilities allegedly used by tobacco companies to evade heavy taxation.

The source did not refer to Fortune Tobacco, however.

Executive order

The same source said the BIR excise tax unit was also poised to review its records pending a subpoena regarding a graft case filed against Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson over his involvement in the alleged malversation of the region's tobacco excise tax shares.

President Estrada signed Executive Order 175, the directive strengthening excise tax operations, in November last year or a month after Singson accused the President of receiving portions of a P130-million revenue share allocated to his province, Bigasin said.

The amount represents 10 percent of the 1999 excise taxes collected from all tobacco produced by his province.

Republic Act 7171 obliges the national government to allocate specific revenue shares to all tobacco-producing provinces, like Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, La union and Abra.

But Mr. Estrada also issued Executive Order 306 in the first week of December, which fused the excise tax division with its "large tax division."

The order transferred the excise tax division's management from Assistant Commissioner Leonardo Albar to Assistant Commissioner Virginia Trinidad.

"We (excise tax investigators) are currently confused because we do not know where this new order is going. Does that mean our unit no longer exists? Does it mean we cannot work on our cases? I was about to validate the exemption supposedly given to (a factory of) Fortune Tobacco in Vigan (Ilocos Sur). I wanted (the company) to explain why they still do not pay their mandatory inspection fees and specific taxes," Bigasin said.

Fake cigarettes

But he did not present his case before the multi-agency task force meeting on Thursday after the agencies pounced on the BIR for delaying a series of suits pending against a Chinese-Filipino businessman when the tax agency failed to supply valuable inventory reports and tax investigation assessments.

The businessman was accused of fraud, intellectual property rights violation, child abuse for hiring four minors from Mindanao as factory workers, and illegal recruitment for importing 13 workers from the Visayas and Mindanao, including the minors, without a license.

None of these cases, however, was fortified either by a complete tax profile of the businessman or a complete inventory of machines that were confiscated in November.

Bigasin submitted a partial inventory report advising agencies that their November raid confiscated P2.5 million worth of factory products, including 7,150 kilos of tobacco bales, 31,841 cigarette packs, and empty cartons bearing the brands of Fortune Tobacco products Marlboro and Winston, and products of Philip Morris Philippines.

The 13 witnesses had obtained permission from the DWSD to return home to the Visayas and Mindanao, impatient of the pace of the government probe.

Fangasan said no testimonies were obtained from the witnesses during the two months that they stayed in Baguio under the custody of the city social welfare office.

The witnesses were "rescued" by the task force, after one of them, Richard de Ocampo, escaped from the factory to tip off authorities in Baguio about the illegal enterprise.

They are waiting to be paid P800,000 in back wages and benefits covering the year 2000. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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AN APPEAL TO THE ATENEO ALUMNI IN THE ESTRADA ADMINISTRATION

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that is not safe, politic, and popular
but one must take it because it is right.
– Martin Luther King

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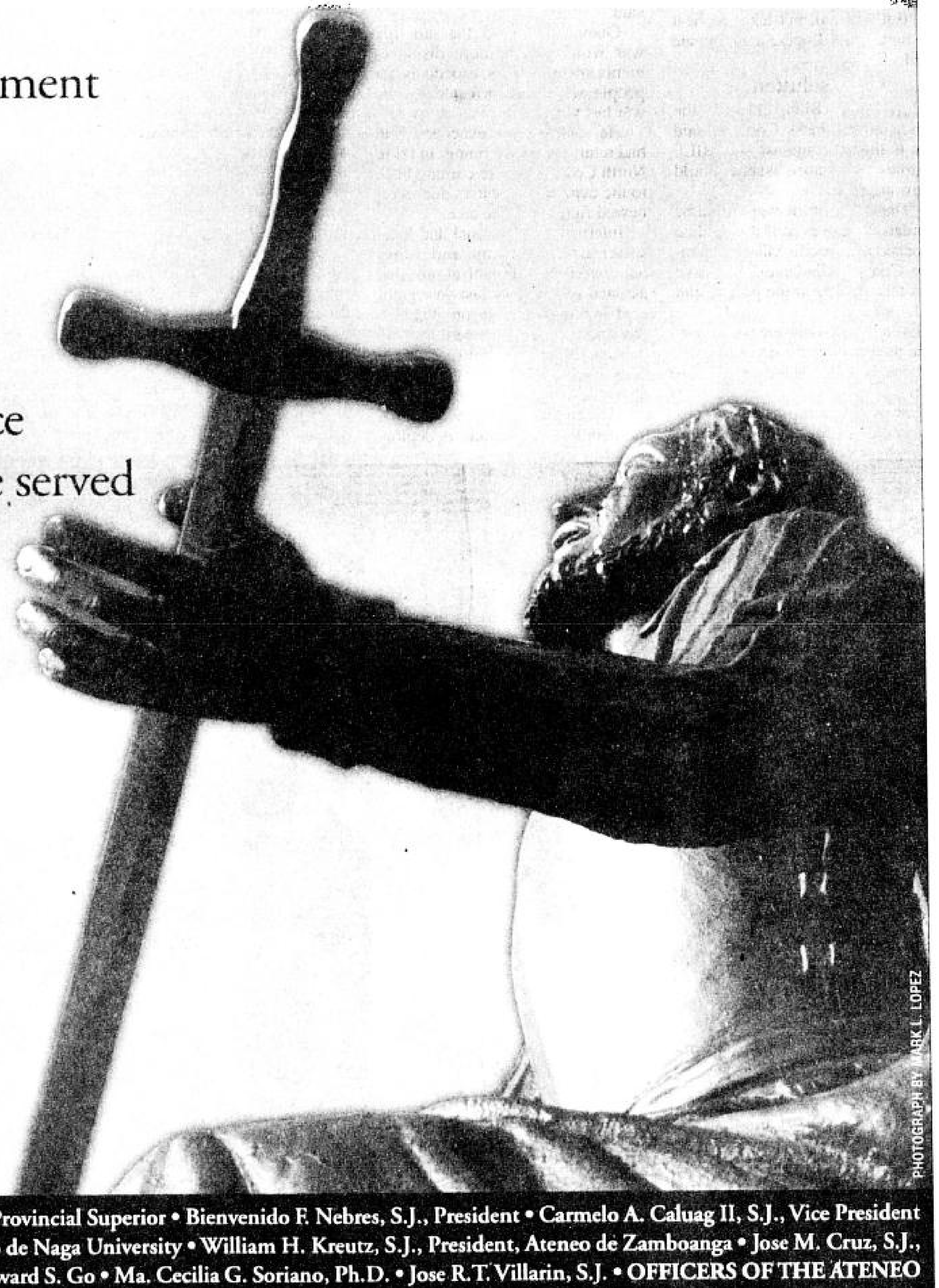

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK L. LOPEZ

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INQUIRER Mindanao
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ CAROLYN O. ARGUILLAS, Bureau Chief

Why sacrifice Mindanao again?

THEY said the MILF (Moro Islamic Liberation Front) is a spent force already. Why wage war against a spent force? Why, indeed, asked Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, on the government's war mode in Mindanao these days.

PRESIDENT Estrada inspects bombs found at Camp Abubakar after the Moro rebel stronghold fell into government hands last year.

Why is Mindanao going to be sacrificed again?

Rey Magno Teves, convenor of the Mindanao Peace Advocates Conference (MPAC), said the war declaration could be related to the mounting calls for President Estrada's ouster and the evidence linking him to corruption and other wrongdoings.

When the President launched an "all-out war" against the MILF last year, protest actions calling for the President's resignation were already spreading, Teves said.

"Mindanao is again being sacrificed (to save the President). That is the worst part of these developments," he said.

Davao Oriental Gov. Rosalind Lopez said, "Why in Mindanao always? We are always at the mercy of imperial Manila and now, they want to use us again as scapegoats to take the heat off Erap.

"But that will not take the heat off him," said Lopez, a partymate of Mr. Estrada.

No solution

Joji Ilagan Bian, chair of the Mindanao Business Council, said that if the war against the MILF resumes, the entire island would again suffer.

"The effect of the war would be Mindanao-wide even if it would be launched in a specific village in faraway Central Mindanao. We have seen this already in the past," Bian said.

Even in areas outside the immediate theater of war last year, investors and tourists shied away, she said.

She said the business community could not understand why the President is going to war again, adding that it will only compound the problems of the island and the country.

"We have a crisis in leadership, we have not recovered yet from the effects of the war, why is the government taking another drastic action by launching a war?" she asked.

No justification

Archbishop Quevedo, who is also president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, said there was "no justification" for the resumption of hostilities against the MILF as he expressed suspicion that the President's orders were meant to distract government attention from the ongoing impeachment trial.

"The (President's order to resume the) war was meant to sidestep or cover the interest of the public in the impeachment trial," he said.

Quevedo warned that another war would mean more displacements and hardships, especially for people who were affected by the war last year.

He said several evacuees who had returned to their homes in Pikit, North Cotabato, were coming back to the evacuation centers due to renewed fighting in the area.

International, national and local relief organizations and other nongovernment organizations that assisted war victims last year gathered in Cotabato City on Wednesday and issued a statement that the "resumed military offensive" again "sets back peace efforts and economic stability in Mindanao.

"The unending violence against the people in Mindanao is deplorable," they said. Based on government reports, the number of internally displaced people (IDP) reached 844,030 (or 158,161 families) in November.

Eighty-two percent of the IDP families are farmers who are denied access to their main source of livelihood. Children are deprived of their right to education, as 58 percent of the IDP families cannot afford to send their children to schools.

A government health facility in Cotabato City recorded 556 war victims from 29 April to 17 September 2000 alone.

The NGOs said the "renewal and intensification of violence in Mindanao will displace thousands of Mindanaoans (Muslims, *lumad* and Christians) who are non-combatants."

"Children and women will again bear the brunt of this ugly armed confrontation," the statement said. "The war will cause more destruction of both private and public property."

"Various groups and individuals in Mindanao have spoken. Using Mindanao as a scapegoat of the present political crisis being experienced by President Estrada will further fuel present animosities which could lead to more social unrest and lawlessness," it read.

The group called on "peace-loving Mindanaoans" to "be vigilant and unite against any attempt to exploit the present crisis in our island, most especially the resumption of the military offensive-Mindanao Violence Part II."

The campaign serves the "vested interests of political groups and individuals and pressures the "responsible people" in the government to resolve expeditiously the ongoing political crisis involving the President.

They must find "viable, just and durable solution" to the armed conflict and ensure that the government provides adequate protection to noncombatants and the IDPs to receive sufficient humanitarian support from them," the groups said.

'Desperate'

MILF military chief Al Haj Murad said military and police officials have "become so desperate to find a solution to the declining popularity of the President, so they'll plunge Mindanao into war again."

"Aside from making Estrada look good again, they can also make money. You know, war has always been a business for some people in the military," Murad said.

Murad, MILF chair Salamat Hashim and several other key officials have been charged with multiple and frustrated murder for the Dec. 30 bombings in Metro Manila.

Murad denied that the MILF had a role in the bombings. He said the MILF strategy had always been semi-conventional warfare, "not urban terrorism as some people in the government would like everybody to believe."

Murad said that for the government and the pro-Estrada forces, plunging Mindanao into war again would contain the damage from the impeachment trial and, at the same time, curb the growing dissatisfaction among Army soldiers and officers.

"It's like hitting two birds with one stone. Make Estrada popular again and prevent a coup d'etat. Disgruntled soldiers will not be able to think of toppling the government while battling the MILF," Murad said.

Director General Panfilo Lacson, PNP chief, had said authorities have pieces of evidence to show that the rebel group was behind the blasts.

Murad said Lacson's pronouncement about the MILF's involvement served as a puzzle to them. "If we remember it right, the police issued a statement on Dec. 29 that it foiled a bombing spree allegedly being planned by the Abu Sayyaf following the arrest of some of its members."

"Now, why is there a sudden change of pronouncement? It has suddenly become the MILF," Murad said.

Murad said his group had long suspected that it would again be used as a scapegoat to draw the people's attention away from the impeachment trial but that it did not foresee that pro-Estrada forces would sacrifice the lives of innocent victims to fulfill this mission.

"They have become desperate," he said.

'Big mistake'

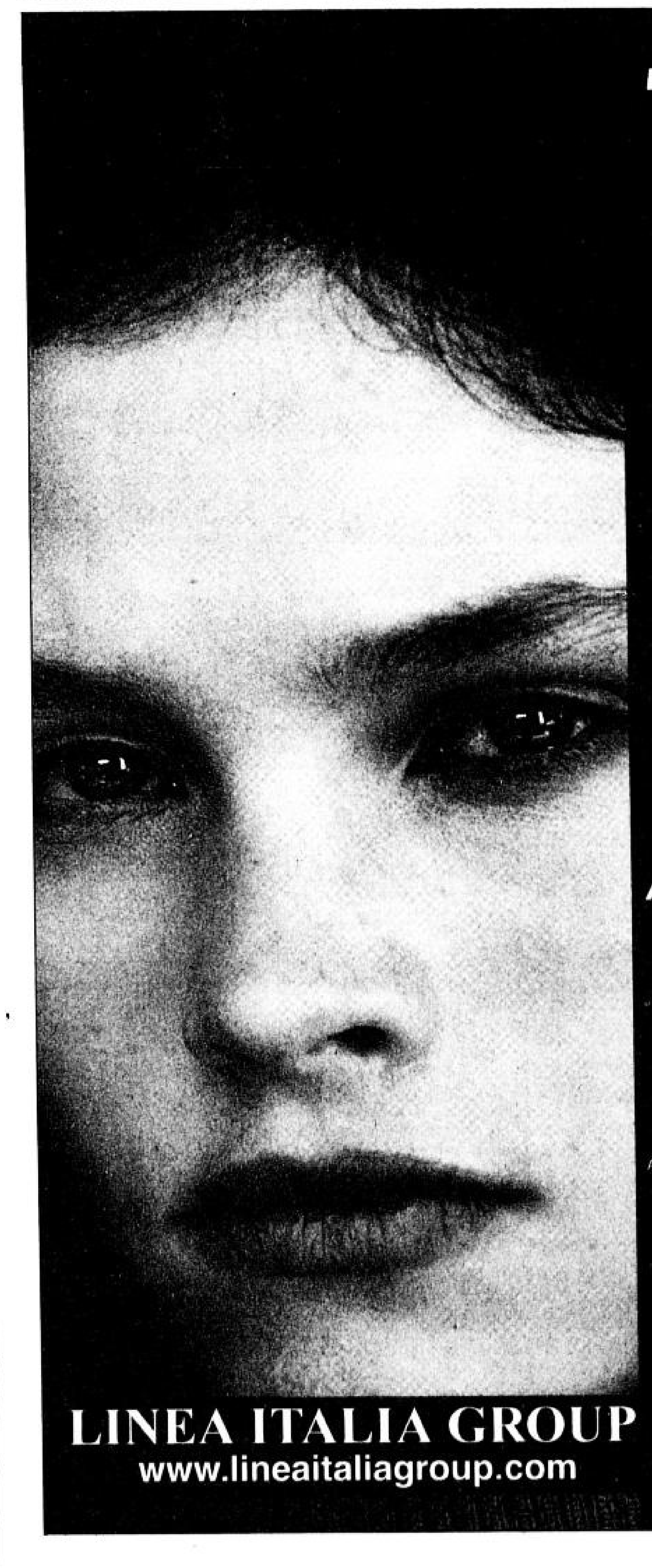
"It's a big mistake," Prof. Moner Bajunaid, chair of the MILF committee on peace process, said.

Bajunaid said the renewed military offensive was "a tactic to divert the attention of the country from the impeachment proceedings."

"I look at it as completely losing the hope for the resumption of the peace talks. It is the administration's desperate move to prop up its popularity and credibility among our people," he said, stressing that this (war in Mindanao) "did not work the first time it was used."

"The Estrada administration is pulling out its survival kit in order to earn *pogi* points," he said.

The war, he said, would only result to a repeat of what happened last year. ***Allan A. Nawal, Nico A. Alconaba, Jowel F. Canuday and Ferdinand O. Zuasola***



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Yes, Your Honor

(From page A1)

There were fears of violent confrontations; of interventions from the right, from the left and the reds; of anarchic upheavals.

But the rule of law prevailed. Because of one man.

His name is Hilario Davide Jr., 65, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, presiding officer of the unprecedented impeachment trial of President Joseph Estrada for (1) bribery, (2) graft and corruption, (3) betrayal of the public trust, and (4) culpable violation of the Constitution.

From the first day of the trial on Dec.7, 2000, Davide established the authority and superiority of the constitutional process. By its 21st day last Friday, the trial had become a showcase of a democracy at work. Of a democracy that's robust enough to revive and energize a despairing Republic.

How did Davide do it? Simply by being himself. For starters, his knowledge of the law and his industry are indisputable. His capacity to absorb facts on the spot and analyze legal provisions continue to amaze the impeachment court.

An admiring colleague says he "digests the minutiae of judicial work, for which he has an elephantine memory and gluttonous appetite. He writes exhaustively, patiently explaining the details of the cases assigned to him, stating all the arguments of each of the parties, and then discussing one by one each question raised.

"Dissecting issues with a surgeon's scalpel, he rules clearly and firmly, leaving no doubt or equivocation or residue. Seldom does he pontificate; instead he argues his points with a view to convince . . ."

Just as amazing is his concentration ("Overruled on No.1 (objection); sustained on No. 2 and 3."). He remains focused on the proceedings of the day for six hours five days a week.

As the presiding officer, his primary role is that of a referee. The verdict will be rendered by the senator-judges.

Always a calming center, Davide tosses to the judges divisive issues in the tribunal such as whether a witness is to be heard or not. But that's not because he's playing it safe.

When the senator-judges look to him for guidance, he's quick to give it as when he ruled for the appearance of the "surprise" prosecution witness, Clarissa Ocampo.

As it were, he is holding a torch, not a weighing scale, to light the way for the court and for us ordinary Filipinos to judge and decide for ourselves and, more importantly, to act accordingly.

In a recent speech at the University of the Philippines, he said that he always kept in mind how his rulings at the impeachment trial would touch the lives of millions of Filipinos.

Fairness doctrine

Most of all it is Davide's stringest standard of fairness that has clothed the trial with a thick mantle of credibility. Where before the trial, people mindlessly rushed to judge and punish, there's now a national consensus to let the constitutional process take its course.

A witness with the stature of Jose Yulo, former head of the Philippine Stock Exchange, said so.

Other witnesses the likes of former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu would not have turned up at the witness stand if he believed the trial was only for show.

Even Cardinal Sin who has from the very start of "Juetengate" called for President Estrada's resignation, is giving the impeachment court a chance to do its work. He would call for People Power if the court acquits Mr. Estrada by "deceit."

That the televised impeachment trial has netted the highest ratings in the history of Philippine TV is a measure of the audience's confidence in the constitutional process and the integrity of its presiding officer.

'Pure of heart'

Another colleague for the past four years, Associate Justice Artemio Panganiban, described the Chief Justice as the personification of three qualities: integrity, simplicity and dedication to duty.

Said Panganiban: "In his nine years as jurist and in many more before as legislator, Constitution-maker and elections chairman, no one has ever doubted his integrity. No taint of corruption has even been hurled at him or his family . . . Only he who is pure of heart and clear of mind with no skeletons to hide can rightfully be called a man of integrity like Davide."

Cebu's pride

Born on Dec. 20, 1935 in Colawin, Argao, Cebu, 66.5 kilometer south of Cebu City, Davide was one of the seven children of Hilario Davide Sr., a public school superintendent and Josefa Gelbolinago, also a public school teacher.

Life was difficult for the young Davide. He attended public schools, walking many kilometers by foot. Davide studied law at the University of the Philippines where he was a member of several honors societies. After passing the bar in 1959, he worked under the Cebu vice governor and later the governor. He also taught law.

Davide was elected member of the Constitutional Convention in 1971 representing Cebu's 4th District. Davide returned to private practice when Marcos declared martial rule. In 1978 he ran under the opposition Pusyon Bisaya and was elected assemblyman representing Region 7 in the Interim Batasang Pambasa. He became minority floor leader from 1978 to 1979.

At the Batasang Pambansa, Davide filed resolutions to end martial rule and initiated investigations of irregularities and human rights violations. Among the bills he authored were those limiting the period of preventive detention and restraining orders. He wanted election laws amended and oppressive and unjust Marcos decrees repealed.

In 1983 Davide was cited one of the Outstanding Assemblymen. When his term ended, Davide returned to private practice.

After the fall of the Marcos dictatorship, President Cory Aquino appointed Davide to the 1986 Constitutional Commission that drafted the present Charter. He was then appointed chair of the Commission on Elections. Aquino also named him to head the presidential fact-finding commission to investigate the root causes in several coup d' etats against the Aquino administration.

'Best track record'

On Jan. 24, 1991, Aquino appointed Davide associate justice of the Supreme Court. In 1998 President Estrada appointed Davide Chief Justice of the Supreme Court saying "he has the best track record."

As Chief Justice, he laid down the principles of what he called "an activist court" with the Constitution as its cornerstone. He wanted to have a tribunal grounded on "the pursuit of excellence in public service and social reforms." He moved to reorganize the judiciary, weed out corruption, preserve the tribunal's independence and plug leaks in the decision-making process. He wanted to ensure the "delivery of impartial, fair and swift justice." One of his first tests involved the cases of the Marcos cronies.

A human rights lawyer tersely said of Davide: "He cannot be approached." Not for favors or in relation to pending cases. "The word is that if you try you might even lose your case." Not that he's unapproachable. Davide is known for his humility, is easy to get along with, soft-spoken.

Davide's day

It usually starts at 3:30 a.m. with prayer and Bible reading, followed by exercise. He is among the first to arrive in his office. A few days ago, despite the hearings that continued till late the previous day, Davide found time to speak at the UP College of Law first thing in the morning. He worked on his speech at 3 a.m.

Davide is married to Virginia Perez with whom he has five children: Hilario III, Joseph Bryan Hilary, SherylAnn, Noreen and Delsier Emmanuel.

In 1999, already the Chief Justice, Davide returned to his hometown to a hero's welcome. He got out of his car and rode a carabao through the dusty trail to his ancestral home. His 93-year-old father was in tears. In his remarks, Davide vowed, "We need to protect the innocent and punish who are guilty and need to be punished."

Espiritu leaves for US

(From page A1)

propaganda and election campaign purposes," he said.

Maceda noted that Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., the impeachment court's presiding officer, announced on Friday that Espiritu was still scheduled to reveal names and other sensitive information in a closed-door session on Monday.

Maceda accused Espiritu of doing a "demolition job" on the President so that he could sweep under the rug the P4-billion "scam" involving his son, John.

In a brief message during the President's weekly radio show, "JEEP ni Erap," Executive Secretary Edgardo Angara also denied Espiritu's allegations he tried to discourage him from testifying, saying he only called the witness before his testimony to assure him the government was not persecuting him.

Angara also denied he promised to fix the case involving Espiritu's son that is pending with the justice department.

"I said I would look into it. I didn't say I'll fix it," Angara said, referring to the case involving the collapse of Westmont Investment Corp. after it failed to pay off money placements of several investors.

Espiritu had told the Senate court that the President, his friends Carmelo Santiago and Manuel Zamora, and former Rep. Miguel Romero also tried to dissuade him from testifying.

More death threats

Makati Rep. Joker Arroyo, one of the 11 House prosecutors, said other prosecution witnesses were also receiving death threats through the telephone.

"Some of our witnesses are already getting phone calls . . . We're worried that one of them might get killed, derailing our presentation," Arroyo told the INQUIRER on Friday night.

He said the prosecution had built up "an embarrassingly strong" case that could provoke some of the President's associates "to react violently."

Mr. Estrada is being tried on charges that he had pocketed about P400 million in "jueteng" payoffs, accepted P130 million in tobacco tax kickbacks, and intervened on behalf of businessman-friend Dante Tan in the investigation of the stock market scandal involving BW Resources Corp.

After he left the witness stand last Friday, Espiritu told newsmen his testimony had put his wife under a lot of stress.

"My wife is suffering from all this and she is thankful that my testimony is over," said Espiritu who fidgeted, bit his lower lip and at times appeared close to tears during his two-hour testimony on Friday.

He looked worried after he disclosed that he had seen notorious smugglers taking part in official functions at Malacañang.

Senators demanded that Espiritu reveal the names of the smugglers but these demands were dropped after senator-judges expressed concern that he could pay with his life.

Smugglers

In his stunning testimony, Espiritu said he resigned as finance secretary a year ago because rampant corruption pushed the government into chronic budget deficits.

"While this (smuggling) had been going on for many years, I only saw its magnitude when I took the department of finance post," Espiritu told the Senate.

"What is deplorable is that I see so many of these people involved in smuggling at social functions at Malacañang," he added.

Espiritu said the Economic Intelligence and Investigation Bureau once detained a person in a "major" case of sugar, rice and fertilizer smuggling.

The incident, according to Espiritu, enraged Mr. Estrada who then abolished the EIIB "because the arrested person was close to the government."

Espiritu, however, said he would be risking his life if he were forced to reveal the names of the smugglers associated with Mr. Estrada.

Sen. Raul Roco demanded their identities be revealed. But Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago protested, saying the Philippines was one of the most "crime-ridden" places on earth.

"We want this witness to live long," Arroyo told the Senate court, ending the controversy.

Testimony

Espiritu also testified that the President had admitted to him he partly owned BW Resources Corp., a gaming firm involved in the country's biggest stock manipulation scandal. ***With reports from Cathy C. Yamsuan and AFP***

Car bomb . . .

(From page A1)

The MILF allotted P90,000 to purchase a red Mitsubishi Lancer used to carry explosives into the Naia compound, police said.

Authorities said the conclusion—that MILF leaders were behind the bombings—"was a result of painstaking sleuthing and scientific investigation" conducted by police and military agents.

Canson said that further investigation continues to produce more evidence to back their suspicions.

He said that the evidence would reinforce the multiple murder and frustrated murder charges filed against MILF chair Hashim Salamat, vice chairs Ghadzali Jaafar and Al-Haj Murad and several others

Blockbuster

Police intelligence agents said the series of operations to find the bombers could rival scenes in "action-packed blockbuster movies."

On Jan. 8, agents of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force (PAOCTF) in Davao claimed to have recovered "bombing devices" from a house being rented by one of the nine respondents in the Dec. 30 bombing case filed before the Department of Justice.

Canson said that the suspect, Mohammad Guindolongan, alias Kim or Abu Zainal, was not home when police raided the house at No. 189 in Mini Forest village along Quezon Boulevard in Davao. The door to the house was padlocked, said local policemen.

K-9 dog

A K-9 bomb-sniffing dog led the raiders to discover bomb components hidden in the ceiling of the bathroom and in a kitchen cupboard, Canson said.

The search led to the seizure of a plastic bag of explosives, an MK2 fragmentation grenade and other bomb-making paraphernalia. Also confiscated was an Islamic Bank passbook.

But Joel Virador, secretary general of the human rights group Karapatan, claimed that the alleged bombing devices were apparently "planted" by the raiding team.

Alibi

Chief Insp. Ronald de la Rosa, PAOCTF Davao City chief, identified Guindolongan as a member of the SOG-Bangsamoro Islamic Armed Forces (BIAF) of the MILF.

Police had earlier filed charges against Guindolongan after he was identified as one of the buyers of the red Lancer used in the Naia bomb attack.

De la Rosa said Guindolongan was identified by witnesses of the airport bombing, and that footage from a Naia surveillance camera showed the suspect with another of the accused rebels, Saifula Yunos, alias Moclic.

But the Guindolongans' neighbors told the INQUIRER that Mohammad and his family were home on Dec. 30, adding that they even conversed with the suspect.

Erlyn Diodos, 38, a neighbor, said Mohammad left the house on Jan. 3 and that his wife and children followed on Jan. 5. She said the family left for Cagayan de Oro City to visit the family of a relative who recently died.

Clues

Ismael Abbas, alias Bebot, one of the suspects, is in police custody.

Witnesses identified Abbas as one of the people who alighted from the red Lancer moments before the bomb exploded near an airport warehouse.

Although the explosion blew up the car, laboratory technicians were able to re-construct parts of both the vehicle and the improvised explosive device.

Through the identifying markings on car parts, investigators traced the Lancer to its original owner.

The owner revealed that he had sold it to a man who identified himself as Arnulfo Ventura of Manresa, Quezon City.

The owner told investigators that Abbas, acting for Ventura, gave him P3,000 as part of a down payment, while the balance of the down payment, P35,000, was delivered on Dec. 11 by Yunos and Guindolongan.

Army sleuths provided police investigators with surveillance photographs of the three suspects aboard the car in Quiapo. The photos were taken on Dec. 12

'Terrorist team'

Davao City police yesterday pinpointed four villages in the city and in the neighboring provinces of Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley as alleged sanctuaries of the "Special Operations Group (SOG)" of the MILF.

The group is suspected of carrying out the bomb attacks in Metro Manila, according to city police chief Senior Supt. Wilfredo Garcia.

He described the "SOG" as an MILF team trained to engage in "terrorist activities" in key areas of the country.

But Garcia admitted to reporters that the identification of the communities as MILF sanctuaries was merely based on past sightings of Moro rebels in these areas.

"Traditionally, these communities have been used as the hiding place of MILF rebels who engaged in terrorist activities in various parts of the country so naturally we consider these as their possible sanctuaries," Garcia said.

Gringo plays down . . .

(From page A1)

come out and support the revolt.

He said he was sure that the military would not intervene because, among other things, no charismatic person or group had yet emerged to lead it in another adventure.

"I do not want to sound self-serving. But no leader or group of leaders has surfaced to capture the imagination of the military organization or of the police," said Honasan, who headed the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) that backed the 1986 uprising.

Later, renamed Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan, RAM led a number of failed putsches against the Aquino administration.

Honasan said even the retired generals' earlier call for the military to withdraw support from Mr. Estrada would lead nowhere.

"That is why they are called retired generals. Their influence is more moral than substantial," he said.

Honasan urged the public to consider whether another Edsa-style uprising would help ease the highly charged political scene.

"The question is, will that help improve the situation? Will that induce the healing process?" he said.

He pointed out that the military and the police had not been sufficiently polarized for either one to intervene in politics, "unless there is something below the surface that we have not detected."

No unrest

Honasan also said there was no military unrest because of Mr. Estrada's concern for soldiers and policemen.

"This President has personally—and I'm not his apologist—attended to the welfare of the military and police organizations. Whether this is good or bad, I don't know. But it has generated some degree of stability in the minds of the soldiers," Honasan said.

He added: "Generally, the soldiers in the field realize that support from headquarters is beginning to reach the intended beneficiaries. There is more equitable allocation of resources.

"At the level of the battalion and brigade leader, the gap between the rich and the poor is not that obvious anymore."

Honasan said there were "better commanders now," as well as "more progressive officers who have developed some sort of vision and are not interested in life after retirement."

He said that at a recent forum, he told restless officers to "go ahead" and try to remove the President from office

But he said he quickly reminded them to be prepared to face the consequences should they fail.

Unacceptable

Rafael Mariano, chair of the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP), said that "based on the weight of the evidence presented by courageous witnesses and the prosecution panel, an acquittal verdict will be highly unacceptable to the people."

His statement was echoed by Teodoro Casiño, secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan.

Mariano said the 800,000 KMP members would lead rural folk in another revolt should the impeachment court acquit the President.

In Lucena City, Victor Briz, president of the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP), said "This challenge from the cardinal is very welcome, as we are willing to go on an indefinite general strike as a prelude to an Edsa 2."

Briz said the BMP had been "openly calling for a new version of the Edsa uprising." He said the "sequel" should now be led by "the working class whose interest is not only to unseat Erap but also to totally cleanse the rotting system of governance in the country."

Casiño said Bayan and its allied groups were preparing to "send a strong signal" to the court that the people would not accept a verdict of acquittal.

He said another protest action had been set for tomorrow, the original date set by the court to issue its verdict.

The mass action will be marked by a cultural march from the Malate Church to the Senate grounds.

The assembly point is the plaza fronting the church. The march starts at 12:30 p.m. ***With reports from Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau; Andrea Trinidad-Echavez in Manila***

How 21 senators cope with Erap trial

(From page A1)

stamina needed to meet the demands of the trial.

John Osmeña and Anna Dominique Coseteng have back pains made worse by sitting for hours on end. "I just walk around," Osmeña said.

Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. admits that he has a habit of swiveling his chair.

"If I don't move my chair, I would fall asleep," Pimentel said.

He said he envied his seatmate, Chief Justice and Presiding Officer Hilario Davide Jr., who is used to lengthy and often tiresome trials, and whose only concession to occasional boredom seems to be coffee.

Network cameras were barred from taking shots of dozing senator-judges after Vicente Sotto III and Revilla complained.

"I drink more water to help me keep awake," Coseteng said.

Siestas, chihuahuas

John Osmeña even moved to the nearby Westin Philippine Plaza when the trial began so that he could squeeze in "a little siesta" between the morning Senate committee sessions and the afternoon impeachment proceedings.

Miriam Defensor-Santiago complements physical exercise with mental aerobics.

"I read Christian mystics such as Paul Tillich, Hildegard of Bingen, and the (unknown) author of the Cloud of Unknowing," she said.

"I jog, do aerobics, work out on a machine, lift weights and swim 10 laps in an Olympic-sized pool, three times a week. I take walks with sons in the evenings. I play with my daughters on weekends, and their pet chihuahuas," added Santiago, who has earned a reputation as a courtroom disciplinarian.

Walk in the park

Reading and listening intently (or at least trying to), for most of the senators, are the most valuable tools in reaching a verdict.

The trial is supposed to be a walk in the park for the legislators who are lawyers by training or former practice.

The Senate is blessed with some of the best legal minds in the country—Santiago, Pimentel, Franklin Drilon, Raul Roco, Teofisto Guingona Jr., Juan Ponce Enrile and Cayetano.

Roco said he hoped he was "coping elegantly and with clarity and wisdom for our people."

Whenever she speaks, Santiago, a former trial judge, hardly ever fails to cite court rules and rulings here and abroad.

"It is only now that we really appreciates the importance of Miriam in the Senate," her ally Sen. Vicente Sotto III said in open admiration of Santiago.

Not to be outdone

But because the trial is both a political and judicial proceeding covered live by nationwide television and radio, non-lawyers are not to be outdone by the legal eagles.

Observers have commented about how it took non-lawyers like former broadcast journalist Loren Legarda-Leviste to extract from witnesses some of the most damaging testimony against the President.

It was under Legarda-Leviste's questioning that Clarissa Ocampo of Equitable PCI Bank divulged that bank documents relating to the controversial "Jose Velarde" account were signed in the office of the President's lawyer Estelito Mendoza.

It was also a question asked by Legarda-Leviste that led to the filing of a motion for contempt against two defense lawyers who apparently misled the impeachment court by producing a different "Delia Rajas," an alleged go-between in the transfer of deposits believed to have ended up with the President.

Aquino-Oreta has been credited with the good sense to seek a freeze of a bank account allegedly containing "jueteng" money, held under the name of auditor Yolanda Ricaforte.

Biazon's "gobbledygook" remark earned him points with laymen.

Heaviest burden

All of the senators are feeling the pressure.

"The heaviest burden is social pressure which I cope with by ignoring and avoiding people who are of a different view point," said John Osmeña, a vocal Estrada ally.

"I pray a lot and I try my best not to keep rancor towards people who malign me. I keep my heart filled with understanding for people I am not pleased with," Aquino-Oreta said.

"It is a learning experience, not a burden but a pleasure," said Senate President Pro Tempore Blas Ople. Since the trial started, the respected legislator has held his loquacious tongue, never once rising to ask a question of counsel or witness. Revilla, on the other hand, has risen to address the court a number of times since he earned front-page and primetime coverage for speaking up at the trial for the first time to join those in favor of presenting surprise prosecution witness Ocampo.

PMA Class '71 . . .

(From page A1)

fore he is sworn in as "mistah," according to one of its prominent members, Sen. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

"Whether he is acquitted or convicted, the President will be adopted as an honorary member of our class," Honasan told reporters at yesterday's weekly press forum at the Sulo Hotel in Quezon City.

Mr. Estrada's swearing in as a member of the Matatag Class had earlier been shelved because of the impeachment trial and its fallout.

"He should have taken the oath before Christmas, but we did not want to (add more) color to the political situation right now with a partisan move like that," Honasan said. "And so we requested the President, with all due respect to him, to delay his oath."

Leading lights

Apart from Honasan, who led a number of coup attempts against the administration of President Corazon Aquino, the leading lights of PMA Class '71 include Director General Panfilo Lacson, head of the Philippine National Police, and Chief Supt. Edgar Aglipay, commander of the Metro Manila police force.

Observers believe that the support of the class means that the President can rely on an influential bloc within the Armed Forces and the PNP to quell possible public unrest over the impeachment court's verdict.

Late last year, a number of retired generals called on soldiers and officers on active duty to withdraw support from the Estrada administration.

Honasan said the President would be adopted as honorary member because of his "apparent association (with) General Lacson."

The PNP chief, known to be Mr. Estrada's protégé, was said to have pushed for his adoption as early as February last year. Agreement by class members was said to have been unanimous.

"By the way, the President is my *compadre*," Honasan said. "When I was still in hiding (after the coup attempts in the late '80s)—and this tells us a lot about what kind of person he is—he volunteered to be godfather to my youngest daughter."

Three of the President's sons are adopted "mistahs"—San Juan Mayor Jinggoy Estrada, Class '72; Air Force Maj. Jude Estrada, Class '83; and Jose Victor Ejercito, Class '88.

The Sanctuary

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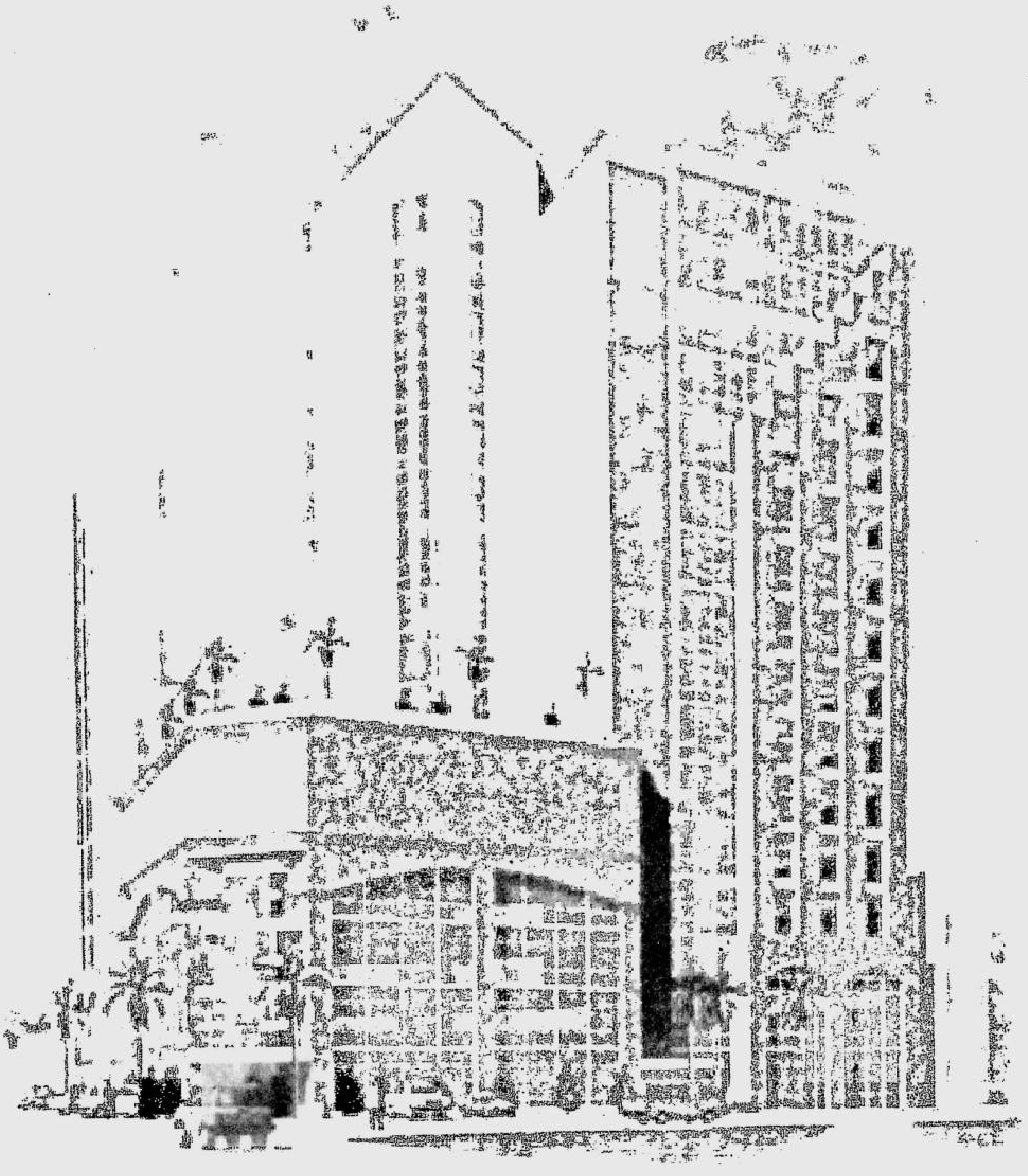

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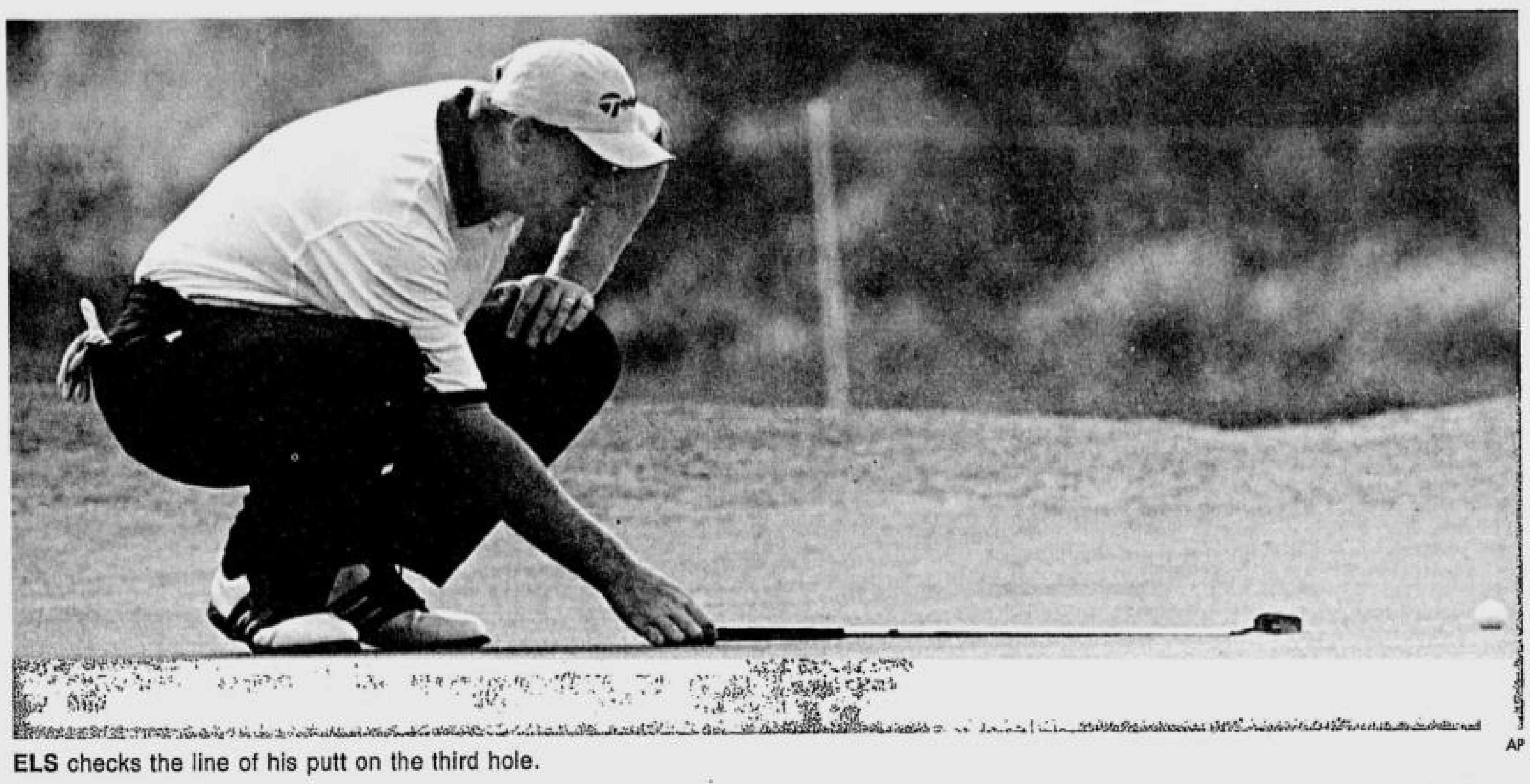


AP

ELS checks the line of his putt on the third hole.

HAWAII TILT

Els builds 4-shot lead

KAPALUA, Hawaii—At this rate, Ernie Els won't have to slug it out with anyone in the Mercedes Championships. Not even Tiger Woods.

While Woods struggled to extend his streak of consecutive rounds at par or better, the Big Easy made the Plantation Course at Kapalua look like a breeze Friday in a round of 7-under 66 that gave him a four-stroke lead after the second round.

Els was at 12-under 134 and has made only one bogey in two rounds in the fierce, often swirling, trade winds off the coast of Maui.

He will play the third round with his favorite practice partner, Masters champion Vijay Singh, who had eagle putts on all of the par 5s and had a 6-under 67.

Also at 138 was Jim Furyk, in his first tournament since injuring his right wrist while playing football in the parking lot before a Pittsburgh Steelers game; and Rory Sabbatini of South Africa. Both had 69.

A year ago, Els went toe-to-toe with Woods over the final 54 holes, one of the most thrilling weekends on the PGA Tour. He lost in a sudden-death playoff when Woods capped off an eagle-birdie-birdie finish with a 40-foot (12-meter) putt.

Els zoomed past Justin Leonard and then slowly separated himself from the rest of the field in swirling winds.

Woods had an even-par 73, his worst score since a 3-over 73 in the first round of the Byron Nelson Classic on May 11.

"It can't be much worse," Woods said. "I'm hitting it terrible, putting it terrible, chipping it terrible. Other than that, it's pretty good."

A 30-foot (9-meter) birdie putt on the 17th was enough to keep his streak safe—49 straight rounds on the PGA Tour, 57 straight rounds worldwide—but was hardly a consolation.

At 143, he was nine strokes behind Els, his largest 36-hole deficit since Woods was 10 strokes behind in the Buick Open last August. Woods finished in a tie for 11th that week, seven strokes out of the lead.

Woods had trouble in the trade winds, coming up well short on the par-3 eighth that crosses a gorge, and bombing it over the 164-yard (meter) 11th hole that was downwind. *AP*

Rosales 4 down; Delasin way off

JENNY Rosales served notice of her intention to make up for a lackluster rookie season with a solid two-under-par 70 yesterday and stood just four strokes off solo leader Laura Davies of England in the $1 million Yourlife Vitamins LPGA Classic, the opening leg of the 2001 LPGA Tour in Orlando, Florida.

Rosales, who played behind the shadows of Fil-American Dorothy Joy Delasin almost the whole 2000 Tour, tamed the Grand Cypress Resort course with five birdies despite an early afternoon tee-off and joined Canadian Lorie Kane–a three-leg winner last year–and three others in ninth place.

Rosales is hoping to surpass her best finish so far of 12th place which came in the US Women's Open.

She birdied (Nos. 4, 5, 13, 15 and 17) against only three bogeys (Nos. 6, 10 and 12) to give herself a good shot at the $150,000 (about P7.5 million) on offer in one of the three straight legs making up the Florida Swing of the biggest LPGA Tour ever.

Davies, the big-hitting veteran from England, opened with a six-under 66 for a one-stroke lead over Penny Hammel.

Delasin, the LPGA's top rookie last year, ran into trouble.

The 20-year-old who is set to receive the PSA Athlete of the Year award birdied the first hole but took a double-bogey on the second hole, blowing hot and cold the rest of the day to finish with a 76 and was in the group sharing 87th spot.

Delasin, due to arrive on Wednesday to personally attend the PSA Awards the next day, also bogeyed the third, birdied the eighth and 11th before lapsing with bogeys on the 13th, the 17th and 18th.

Jong Arcano

6 expats to join DHL golf meet

SIX foreign expatriates will be joining the homegrown talents in an expected wide open battle for the crown when the sixth DHL-NGAP Amateur Open golf championship is held starting Tuesday at the Canlubang Golf and Country Club south course.

Low handicappers from Korea (Lee Seong Ki, Koo Tae Hun, Kim Chang We and Mary Kim Hong), Malaysia (Ikram Arshad) and Japan (Katzumi Ono) will seek the glory of becoming the first foreign champions of the national championship.

There are already 64 names in the field led by the country's reigning national champions—Angelo Que and Aileen Rose Yao.

Yao, a golf scholar at the Cal State Long Beach, just won the Philippine Ladies Open, beating Taiwanese Hung Chin-Huei by a stroke at Wack Wack east.

Que takes over the top seeding from Gerard Cantada who begged off due to a prior commitment.

There are four other ex-national titlists in the cast of the DHL-sponsored event considered as the national stroke play championship: Artemio Murakami, Francis Gaston, Ruby Chico-Walker and Carmelette Villaroman.

Gaston will be making his return to competitive play after going on a hiatus to manage a shipping company the past few years.

The mainstays of the Canlubang team, Juvic Pagunsan, Solomon Gines, Jun Bernis, Boyet Zaragoza, Rolly Viray, Jimmy Feliciano and Luigi Yulo, are showing up in full force.

The men's play is for 72 holes while women's action is for 54 holes

Mango Tee at Alabang

TWO brand-new Mitsubishi cars worth more than a million and more than half a million worth of raffle prizes will be at stake in the 2001 Mango Tee Invitational golf tournament set Feb. 1-4 at the Alabang Country Club course.

All par-3s of the layout will offer prizes for an ace with a Mitsubishi Lancer GLS 1.6 on No. 8, a Lancer GSR automatic on No. 15 and P150,000 in cash for both the sixth and 12th holes.

If not won, the P150,000 hole-in-one prize will be included in the raffle.

As of Thursday, there were already 234 teams in the registry of the annual tourney which is supported chiefly by SMART Communications, leaving just 16 more to be filled up.

Organizing committee chair Jun Galindez said that accommodating more teams from the waiting list has always been the bigger problem than filling up the 250 available slots.

"We always would like to see most of the active members and their chosen guests playing in the Mango Tee," said Galindez.

The ceremonials will be held on Jan. 30 with club president Vic Guzman leading the hitting of ceremonial balls that will precede the welcome cocktails.

GOLF Power will be featuring the highlights of Philippine participation in international junior golf tournaments in the year 2000 today at 3 p.m. on IBC-13, with Philippine Sportswriters Association major awardee for amateur golf Gerard Cantada as host. The show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and is sponsored by Cebu Pacific and Outback Steakhouse.

NBA ROUNDUP

Feuding Shaq, Kobe pace LA

LOS ANGELES—Shaquille O'Neal had 34 points and 23 rebounds and Kobe Bryant scored 32 points as Los Angeles beat Cleveland, 101-98, in the Lakers' first game since a simmering feud between the team's two superstars surfaced.

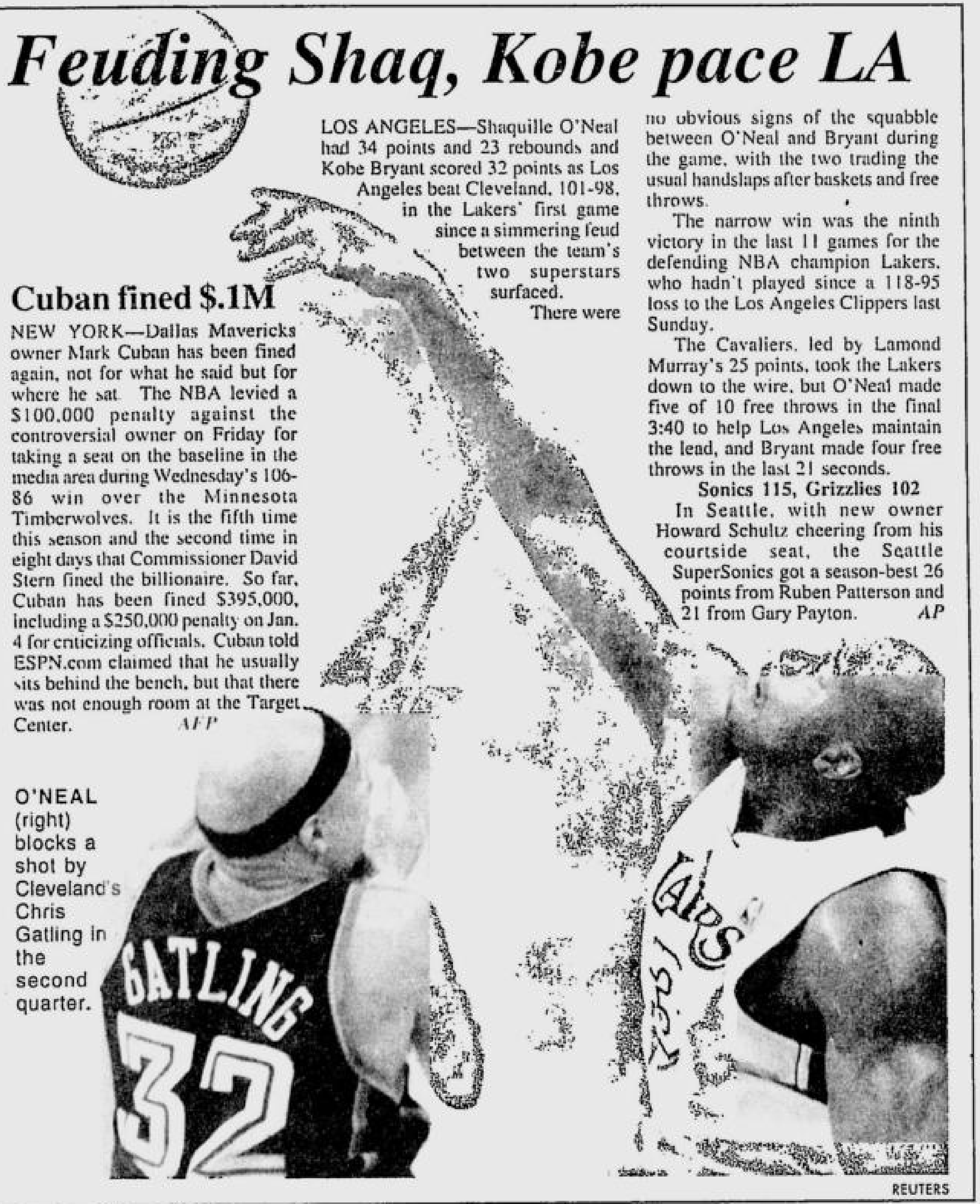
There were no obvious signs of the squabble between O'Neal and Bryant during the game, with the two trading the usual handslaps after baskets and free throws.

The narrow win was the ninth victory in the last 11 games for the defending NBA champion Lakers, who hadn't played since a 118-95 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers last Sunday.

The Cavaliers, led by Lamond Murray's 25 points, took the Lakers down to the wire, but O'Neal made five of 10 free throws in the final 3:40 to help Los Angeles maintain the lead, and Bryant made four free throws in the last 21 seconds.

Sonics 115, Grizzlies 102

In Seattle, with new owner Howard Schultz cheering from his courtside seat, the Seattle SuperSonics got a season-best 26 points from Ruben Patterson and 21 from Gary Payton. *AP*



O'NEAL (right) blocks a shot by Cleveland's Chris Gatling in the second quarter.

REUTERS

Magic's message

LOS ANGELES—Magic Johnson, who had some experience in "coexisting" with another superstar when he played with Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, told feuding Lakers Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant: "Hey, it's about winning." Johnson, who led Los Angeles to five NBA titles in the 1980s, spoke briefly with O'Neal and Bryant prior to Friday night's game against Cleveland. "I just met with both of them separately. It's about going out there, playing together and winning. I think the message was received," Johnson related. "These guys are professionals, and they're two of the best players in the league, so they'll find a way of working it out." Johnson said he was not worried about the rift between O'Neal and Bryant that surfaced this week. *AP*

SuperSonics sold

SEATTLE--For nearly two decades, Howard Schultz watched the Seattle SuperSonics through the eyes of a fan. That will change Friday night when the Sonics play at home against Vancouver in a game that will be his first as the team's new owner. Barry Ackerley called it a "bittersweet" day for his family as he turned over ownership of the team Thursday to a local investment group headed by Schultz, chairman and chief global strategist of Starbucks, the Seattle-based coffee chain. The Ackerley Group announced it was selling the Sonics for $ 200 million. The transaction also includes the WNBA's Seattle Storm.

Complete results: Philadelphia 86, Washington 82; Toronto 93, Boston 72; San Antonio 111, Detroit 90; Minnesota 95, L.A. Clippers 89; Charlotte 86, Chicago 85; Denver 106, Sacramento 93; Seattle 115, Vancouver 102; L.A. Lakers 101, Cleveland 98. *AP*

Cuban fined $.1M

NEW YORK—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban has been fined again, not for what he said but for where he sat. The NBA levied a $100,000 penalty against the controversial owner on Friday for taking a seat on the baseline in the media area during Wednesday's 106-86 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves. It is the fifth time this season and the second time in eight days that Commissioner David Stern fined the billionaire. So far, Cuban has been fined $395,000, including a $250,000 penalty on Jan. 4 for criticizing officials. Cuban told ESPN.com claimed that he usually sits behind the bench, but that there was not enough room at the Target Center. *AFP*

Bring on Pete, says triumphant Andre

AGASSI

MELBOURNE, Australia— Andre Agassi says he would rather play great rival Pete Sampras sooner rather than later in next week's Australian Open after seeing off Yevgeny Kafelnikov in the Kooyong Classic tennis final here Saturday.

Agassi completed an ideal warmup for Monday's grand slam with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win over Kafelnikov in 75 minutes.

Agassi is defending his title at the Australian Open and is on course to face 13-time grand slam champion Sampras in the quarter-finals after both were drawn in the bottom half of the men's singles draw.

The topic of his likely showdown with Sampras predictably came up in his post-match press conference Saturday and while cautioning against looking too far ahead in the draw he revealed his hand.

"If it was to come down to Pete in the quarters I always contend that it's always better to play Pete in the quarters and semis, than it is in the finals.

Agassi, at 30 the oldest of the top clutch of players, is pleased about his preparations for the Open having won all of his three matches at the Kooyong exhibition.

"I feel good about the way I'm moving, the way I'm striking the ball and I still feel like I can get a lot better, so they are all great signs," he said.

Hingis prevails

SYDNEY- Martina Hingis will take a key psychological advantage over arch-rival Lindsay Davenport into the Australian Open after beating her in the final of the Sydney International Saturday.

The world number one rallied from 3-1 down in the third set to win 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

Hingis managed an early break in the second but the world number two broke back to make it 4-4 and Hingis lost her composure.

Her happy-go-lucky demenour on court was obviously hiding a more competitive streak.

After losing her serve and going down 30-15 in the next she smashed her racket on the ground, mangling it. *AFP*

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Top Quest 2. Uncle Zaam 3. Absolute Power 4. En Carta 5. Slew's Ecstasy
Race 2—1. Kay Rufina/Irish Star 2. Expediter 3. Clear Night Sky
Race 3—1. Best of Ocean 2. King of Arabia 3. S'il Vous Plait 4. Legitimo 5. Furthermore
Race 4—1. Typhoon Belle 2. Mark's Treasure 3. Call to Action 4. Glory Be 5. Spirited Lady
Race 5—1. Sparkling Sky 2. El Condor 3. Count Me In 4. Snowy's Best 5. Headhunter
Race 6—1. Allusion 2. Tayp Ko Yan 3. Hush Hush 4. Rapid Dash 5. Lady Victoria
Race 7—1. Flirting Hero 2. South Rim
Race 8—1. Power Drive 2. Bound to Be 3. Gallant Quest 4. Sunny Contender 5. Project Genesis
Race 9—1. El Bulldog 2. Detonator 3. Corporate Law 4. Golden Rose 5. Fortunate
Race 10—1. Golden Tale 2. She's So Sure 3. Boomerang 4. Sweet Justice 5. The Topnotcher
Race 11—1. Prestige 2. Fire Mouth 3. Halifax 4. Katya 5. Baby Love
Race 12—1. My Indy 2. Bulwak 3. Great Debate 4. Maria Nevada 5. Sir Piker
Race 13—1. Spectacular Lady 2. Jean Pierre 3. Populist 4. Gifted Galloper
Race 14—1. Leverage Buyer/Spice of Life 2. Kokoro 3. Mother's Best 4. Join the Fun 5. Altron

Mandaluyong all set for big derby

A STELLAR cast of premier cockers from the United States will take Manila by storm as the "International 9-Cock Derby" unfurls at the Mandaluyong Coliseum from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3.

At least nine foreigners led by Chuck Berry (Oklahoma), Paul Sparks (Alabama), Bobby Jones (Texas), Travis Clark (Missouri), Ruben Rodriguez (Puerto Rico), Fil-Americans Greg Ayroso and Biboy Lazaro (California) will be taking part in this word-class competition hosted by businessman Vic Yu.

Standing up to the challenge are the seasoned game fowl enthusiasts from the United Cockers Association of the Philippines (Ucap) headed by president Butch Macasaet.

Bannering the Ucap stalwarts are Danding Cojuangco, Mauro Prieto, Sonny Lagon, Pepito Ngo, Tony Tan, Ram Lopez, Claudy Bautista, Joey de los Santos, Biboy Enriquez, Pete Rodriguez, Raymond Velayo, Patrick Antonio, Tony Litonjua, Ramon Mencenares and the Cobra Group.

Guzman, Villarete reach final

IRWIN de Guzman and Raymond Villarete of La Salle-Greenhills scored contrasting victories yesterday to reach the finals of their respective divisions in the 12th Andrada Cup Age Group Championships at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

The third-ranked De Guzman eliminated top seed Patrick John Tierro, 6-4, 7-5 to arrange a title showdown with Palarong Pambansa doubles gold medalist Yannick Guba in the boys' 16-under class.

Strong US contingent faces RP cockers

THE AMERICANS are fielding unusually powerful entries to challenge the domination of the Filipino breeders in this year's 2001 World Slasher Cup which starts Monday, Jan. 15, at the Araneta Coliseum.

They will be supported by other foreign breeders from Guam, Canada, Australia, Japan and Malaysia, making this year's Olympics for the sport of cockfighting the toughest field since the "Slasher Cup" was staked 10 years ago.

Vanguard for the American challengers are Atlanta's Roger Roberts who will field the "Hatchets" and Oklahoma's Brad Padgett who brought in the "Bullets" to do battle against the best of the Filipino entries at the start of the three-day 8-cock international derby on Monday at the Big Dome.

Reservations for air-conditioned cockhouses at the Big Dome are so tight in anticipation of the two other "Slasher" days on Jan. 17 and 19. Submission of entries starts from 2 p.m. tomorrow (Sunday) at the Coliseum's Green gate.

The "Hatchets" are a cross between the Hatch Roundheads and the Chet Roundheads which Roberts and his family have been breeding for at least 20 years in their farm in Winder, about 30 kilometers north of Atlanta, Georgia.

The "Bullets" are a good blend of the Kelsos and Clarets, bred in Padgetts' Silver Dreams Farm in the Copper State of Oregon. Their latest triumph were a solo win each in 1998, both in Sunset and in Bayou, highlighting the Independence Day cocking festival in the United States.

Roberts flew in with Johnny Philips, another legendary American in the sport, while Padgetts is teamed up with Rep. Lawrence Wacnang of Kalinga, Apayao.

KTM sweeps Dakar rally

NOUAKCHOTT, Mauritania—Sweden's Per-Gunnar Lundmark led a clean sweep of the top three places for the KTM motorcycle team Friday in the 11th stage of the 2001 Dakar Rally. Lundmark was fastest in the timed section of the 508-kilometer (315-mile) leg. *AP*

Sunday SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Hidalgo inks $32-M deal

HOUSTON, Texas—Richard Hidalgo enjoyed a breakthrough season in 2000, and the Houston Astros were so impressed that they signed the outfielder to a four-year, $32M contract on Friday. The deal includes an option for a fifth season that could raise the value to $45M. *AFP*

ARIGO PRIME CHOICE

57 aspirants vie for PBA slots today

By Marc Anthony Reyes

JOHN Arigo is likely to be the PBA's first-round top pick when Batang Red Bull chooses today in the annual draft at 1:30 p.m. at Glorietta Mall.

Arigo has been joining the Thunder practices alongside Willie Miller, who is also a possible top pick, according to Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao.

"In fact, there is another one who entered the picture," said Guiao. "It's Michael Hrabak. The problem is we don't have any information about him."

He said they are relying on word-of-mouth that the 21-year-old Hrabak, a 6-foot-6 standout of Central Arizona College, plays like the deported Sonny Alvarado.

"Although we are not actually in dire need of a tall guy, we would not hesitate to get him (Hrabak)," said Guiao.

Just the same, Guiao said what he already saw in Arigo and Miller weighs a lot compared to what he heard of Hrabak.

Arigo is 6-foot-3 with smooth outside shooting and enough offensive skill to play both as an off guard and small forward, according to Guiao.

The coach said Arigo still needs to build up muscles because at his height, he weighs only 170 pounds, which is too thin by PBA standards.

"He's reed-thin and it looks like he would crumble when he's banged inside," said Guiao.

However, those who witnessed team practices attested that Arigo ran circles on the flashy Miller, who at 5-foot-11 can play point guard and off guard.

Guiao said Miller's point-guard expertise could come in handy with the absence of Jimwell Torion, who will undergo operation on his right shoulder that would sideline him for half of the season.

The problem is when Torion returns, Miller's job will be redundant and while he can play off guard, he's too short to match against the likes of Kenneth Duremdes, Danny Seigle and Rudy Hatfield.

Arigo's edge also extends outside the hardcourt because he is being managed by Raquel Balagtas, wife of team consultant and former board representative George Balagtas.

However, Balagtas said that while he will vote in the team consensus, he could not monopolize the decision making because one half of the decision will come from owner George Chua.

The other half will come from the coaching staff that includes Guiao, manager Tony Chua, assistant manager Andy Jao, consultant Raffy Casiao and Balagtas himself.

At any rate, Shell Velocity and Barangay Ginebra will gain on Red Bull's refuse, being the No. 2 and 3 pickers, respectively.

Mobiline, Alaska Milk, Sta. Lucia Realty, Mobiline, Sta. Lucia, Purefoods and San Miguel Beer will choose in that order in the first round of the draft where 57 aspirafts, including five Fil-Americans, are up for grabs.

Among the notable aspirants are Roger Yap, Ato Morano, Gilbert Demape, Francis Adriano, Jonathan De Guzman and Fil-Am Kenny Evans.

Boysen-MLQU clinches 1st PYBL championship

STANDINGS	W	L
Shark	9	2
Welcoat	8	3
Montaña	7	4
Blu Sun Power	6	5
Hapee	5	6
Ateneo-Pioneer	4	7

GAMES TUESDAY (Makati Coliseum)
3:30 p.m.—Ateneo-Pioneer vs Blu
5:30 p.m.—Hapee Toothpaste vs Montaña

By Dennis U. Eroa

BOYSEN-MLQU reasserted its supremacy over Skyland Estate, 70-63, to crown itself the inaugural Philippine Youth Basketball League champion yesterday at the Makati Coliseum.

The Stallions, many time winners of the National Inter-Collegiate and the Colleges, Universities and Schools Association championships, used their patented halfcourt game to take the sting out of their hard-fighting rivals.

"I'm confident that we're going to emerge winners because we are familiar with this kind of situation," said triumphant mentor Rex Manansala, a former Stallion himself. Boysen-MLQU also beat Skyland in the eliminations.

Swingman Edelito Saygo, who emerged as MVP, burned the hoops with 19 points and got ample support from Ceazar Rivera and Rodel Mallari, who finished with 15 and 12 points, respectively.

Team owner Vicky Chan lauded his team for a job well done."The team never wavered," Chan noted.

For Skyland, the second-place finish was a big achievement. The team wasn't given much of a chance due to the presence of top Manila-based collegiate teams. It downed NCAA titlist St. Benilde-Mercury Freight in the crossover semis.

PBL chair Dioceldo Sy and Commissioner Chino Trinidad awarded the trophies to the winners.

Meantime, Aris Dimaunahan, Gilbert Lao and Mel Latoreno provided the hits as Montaña Jewels rallied from 14-point down to trip Ateneo-Pioneer, 73-67, in the PBL Challenge Cup semifinals.

Behind, 26-40, the Jewels checked the Blue Eagles transition game to score their seventh win in 11 outings.

Ateneo-Pioneer dropped to 4-7 and faces the awesome task of sweeping its last four games to force a playoff for the second finals spot.

SCORES

Boysen 70—Saygo 19, Rivera 15, Mallari 12, Habelito 9, Albano 8, Alabie 4, Medenilla 3, Lana 0, Conmigo 0, Piñera 0.

Skyland Estate 63—Bonifacio 16, Tadeo 13, Santos 8, Cocjin 6, Cruz 6, Grijaldo 5, Serrano 3, Alberto 0.

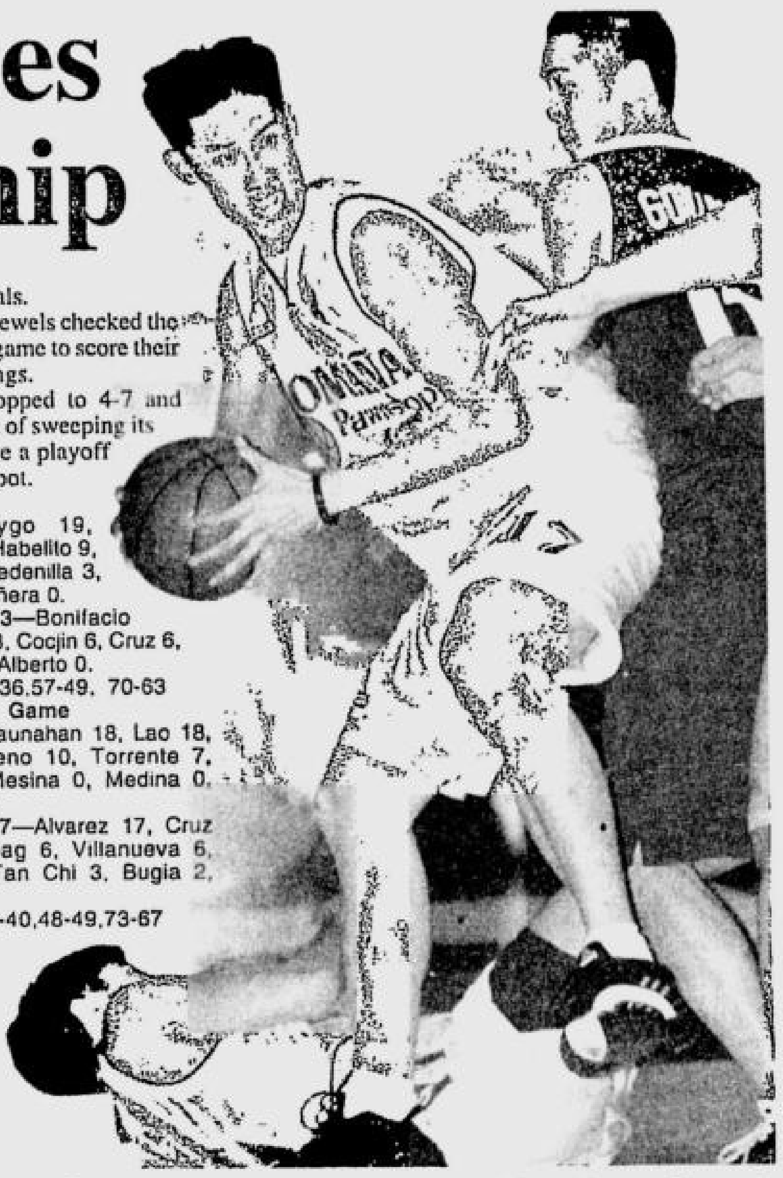
Quarters:18-16,36-36,57-49, 70-63

Second Game

Montaña 73—Dimaunahan 18, Lao 18, Gottenbos 16, Latoreno 10, Torrente 7, Saniel 2, David 2, Mesina 0, Medina 0, Calimag 0, Ybañez 0.

Ateneo-Pioneer 67—Alvarez 17, Cruz 10, Ferrer 9, Manubag 6, Villanueva 6, Racho 6, Sison 6, Tan Chi 3, Bugia 2, Gonzales 2.

Quarters:12-21,26-40,48-49,73-67



MONTAÑA'S Gilbert Lao (left) protects the ball from Ateneo-Pioneer's Wesley Gonzales during their PBL game yesterday. Down on the floor is Orly Torrente. Montaña won, 73-67. ROMY HOMILLADA

Watch out, BatMan is here

By Roy Luarca

COMBINE the stars of Manila with the stalwarts of Batangas and what have you got? A championship-caliber team, no less.

Coach Nash Racela knows the lofty billing given the BatMan combine and admits he and the players are excited about their prospects in the MBA this year.

The first conference will start in April.

"Definitely the chances are better," said Racela. "But we have also to take into account that the other teams have also gotten stronger."

On paper, BatMan really appears formidable.

It has the coveted Romel Adducul and former MVP Alex Compton of Manila and Batangas chief gunner Eddie Laure with whom to build the team around.

Others contending for starting spots are 6-foot-6 Fil-Am Stephen Antonio, 6-foot-3 All-Star Peter Martin, former national player Ralph Rivera and Jeffrey Sanders

Already assured of slots in the LBC-backed team are 6-foot-6 Charles Donaldson, 6-foot-6 Christopher Corbin and 5-foot-8 TonyBoy Espinosa.

Dino Manuel and Oliver Agapito may also be taken in if they fail to make the grade in the PBA.

Racela said he needs only two more role players to complete the roster and since he already has enough big men, Manuel and Agapito may be dispensed with.

If ever, Racela said he would choose from among former Metrostars and Blades like Frechie Ang, Tyrone Bautista, Jayson Cuevas and Lenny Reyes.

To foster camaraderie among the players, the LBC management hosted a get-together on Friday with Compton, who is slated to arrive tomorrow from the United States, the only absentee.

Lyceum faces winless EAC

Games today (Lyceum Gym)
12:30 p.m.—Lyceum vs EAC (srs)
2 p.m.—St. Francis vs PMI (srs)
3:30 p.m.—PSBA-QC vs OC (srs)
5 p.m.—CDSL vs PUP (srs)

BOTH ends meet today as league leader Lyceum of the Philippines faces winless Emilio Aguinaldo College in the semifinals of the 8th McDonald's National Capital Region Athletic Association (NCRAA) seniors basketball tournament at the Lyceum Gym.

The hot-streaking Pirates battle the Generals at 12:30 p.m., looking to stretch their winning run to four and their school-record 12 victories in this eight-year old league sponsored by McDonald's and Iruma balls.

PWA amends charter, sacks Aliño as chair

By June Navarro

URGED by the Philippine Olympic Committee to amend their defective charter, weightlifting officials did as told and proceeded with the election of a new set of officers to end the Philippine Weightlifting Association two-month-old internal squabble.

Seventeen out of 22 officials present during yesterday's quorum led by troubled weightlifting president Rodones Sicat tinkered with their constitution, removing Col. Narciso Aliño (ret.) as PWA chair.

They abolished Article IV, Section I of the PWA constitution and by-laws stating the power and function of the chair as the presiding officer during the association's gatherings.

Aliño, who is based in Cebu City, was absent during the PWA's meeting at the Orchids' Restaurant in Manila and could not be reached for comment.

PWA secretary general Francisco Offemaria notified Aliño two weeks back about the general assembly.

After clearing up the mess in their charter, the officials then elected the officers, who will plan the course of local weightlifting in the next four years.

Sicat was given a fresh mandate to spearhead the association while Graham Lim was officially elected as vice president. Offemaria and Epifanio Cordero (auditor) retained their positions.

Sicat said, the PWA would notify the POC about the changes.

The POC fact-finding body, formed to look into irregularities surrounding cycling and weightlifting, told PWA officials last week to amend their constitution and by-laws.

Nat'l chessfest March 3

STIFF COMPETITION is expected when the National Inter-Cities and Municipalities Chess Team Championship blasts off on March 3 in Mandaluyong City.

First on the agenda of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines this year, the tournament is open to groups composed of two titled players and three non-masters.

It offers a total of P156,000 in prizes.

The 9-round Swiss System contest dangles a P50,000 champion's purse while the runner-up earns P30,000. The third placer gets P20,000.

The NCFP hopes to attract participants from as far as Batac, Ilocos Norte down to General Santos City in Mindanao.

'Alay sa Bayan' run on

THE QUEST for Peace, Unity and Democracy will be the main theme for today's launching of the "Alay sa Bayan Marathon Torch Relay" which is expected to be participated in by more than 5,000 runners from various sectors.

Participants from the government, DECS, DILG, police, AFP personnel, ROTC cadets and volunteers will gather at the Luneta starting at 5 a.m.

Philippine Sports Commission Chair Carlos "Butch" Tuason and DILG Secretary Alfredo Lim will lead the launching of the marathon, which will see the symbolic lighting of eight torches.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled By Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA Inside Stuff at 7:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

US NCAA – Memphis Tigers vs De Paul Blue Demons at 8:30 a.m. and Georgia Bulldogs vs Mississippi Rebels tomorrow at 5 a.m. (r) on ESPN

Chinese National Basketball League at 10 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

BILLIARDS: 2000 Liverpool Victoria UK Championship Finals at 4:30 p.m. (r) on ESPN

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Super Bowl XIX Highlights - Miami Dolphins vs San Francisco 49ers at 6:30 a.m. (r) and Super Bowl XX Highlights - New England Patriots vs Chicago Bears at 4 p.m. (r) on ESPN

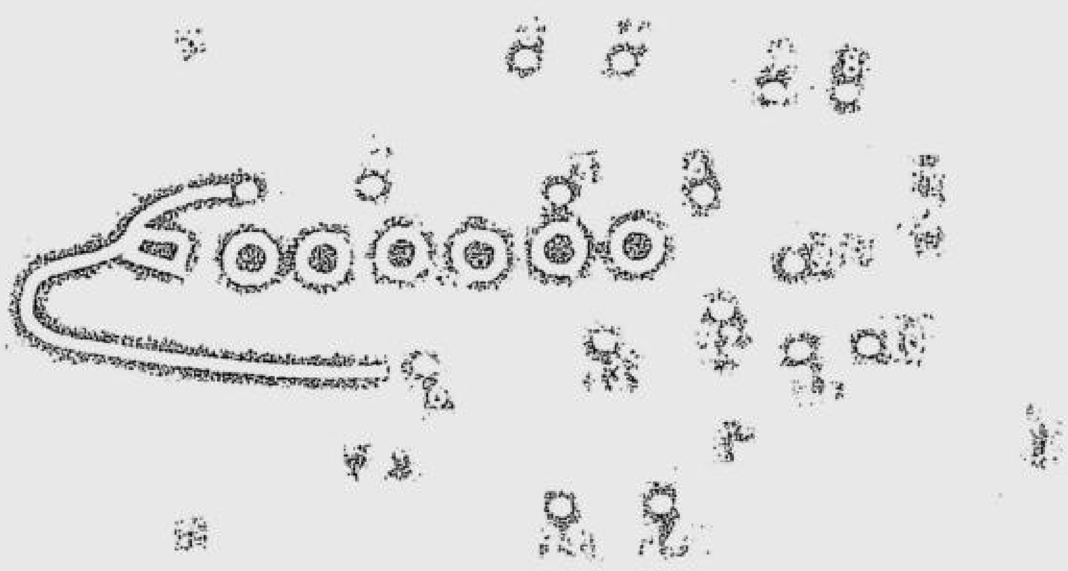
2001 East West Shrine Game at midnight on ESPN

SWIMMING: World Cup Highlights at midnight (r) on Star Sports

BOXING: Great Fights of the Early 1930s at 12:30 p.m. (r) on ESPN

WRESTLING: WWF Metal at 9 a.m. (r) at 10 p.m. (r) on Star Sports

MOTOR SPORTS: Champions of Future Karting Series 2000, Round 6 at 7 a.m. (r) on Star Sports



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Truck vs taxi: 1 dead

LEO Perono, 31, was killed after a delivery truck crashed into the taxi he was riding at 3 a.m. yesterday in front of SM City in Quezon City. Taxi driver Joel Burnis, 25, was pinned inside his cab and is under close observation at the hospital. Police arrested truck driver Romy Paraleo.

Philip C. Tubeza

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

All that glitters is bait for thieves

SEAMAN Ronelio Villojan, 32, was walking in Pasig City when four men and three women in an Tamaraw FX abducted him, robbed him and then dumped him in San Pedro, Laguna Wednesday afternoon. He said they took his $100-wristwatch, $80-ring, $260-necklace, all made of gold, and some $700 in cash.

Blanche S. Rivera

Manila pushes recycling, composting

SCAVENGERS take advantage of growing garbage hill along C-5 Road in Makati.
ERIK ARAZAS

By Jerome Aning

AS THE garbage crisis threatens to turn the metropolis into one big dump, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza is bent on persuading residents to adopt alternative long-term waste disposal methods such as recycling and composting.

Atienza also vowed to punish those caught littering city streets.

He said residents who participate in the city's waste disposal program could join monthly raffles and would be issued ID cards, while violators would be fined and imprisoned.

"There will be a reward for those who abide by the regulations and there will also be punishment for those who do not," he said.

Due to the ban on incinerators, City Hall plans to establish "redemption centers" for recyclable wastes and compost plants to reduce the volume of garbage in Manila.

The proposal for alternative waste disposal methods will be submitted to the city council.

Atienza also launched a series of seminars for members of Kababaihan ng Maynila, a non-government organization headed by his wife Evelina.

Through the seminar, the city hopes to enlist the help of women, especially housewives, in the garbage disposal program.

A redemption center will be set up in each city zone, according to Atienza. Managers from the women's group will oversee the centers.

Each center will be provided with 10 pushcarts which will go around communities collecting non-biodegradable and recyclable items such as bottles and plastics. These will then be sold to junk dealers.

Biodegradable wastes will be segregated for composting after being collected by garbage trucks.

The mayor also plans to turn part of the city's garbage transfer station at Pier 18 of the Manila North Harbor into a composting plant.

The composting method will turn biodegradable wastes such as leaves, spoiled food and vegetable trimmings into organic fertilizer.

"This program would enable us to implement a long-lasting solution to the garbage crisis," Atienza said.

Another officer shot, 2 robbers killed in QC

By Philip C. Tubeza

ANOTHER policeman was shot by suspected robbers in Quezon City yesterday, just two days after two holdup men shot dead a Cainta, Rizal policeman who tried to arrest them.

Yesterday's victim, SPO1 Jacobo Miranda of the Central Police District Mobiel Patrol Unit, is now fighting for his life at the Chinese General Hospital.

Miranda was critically injured when he and his colleagues shot it out with the gunmen, killing two of them and forcing a third to flee before dawn yesterday in Balintawak, Quezon City.

Senior Insp. Rudy Jaraza identified the slain suspects as Cirico A. Cortez, 48, and Ferdinand L. Abragan, 26.

Investigator SPO1 Rodrigo Barrameda said Miranda and SPO1 Apollo Tamayo were on board their police car and patrolling Camachile Road when they noticed a car behind them at about 4:30 a.m. yesterday.

Tamayo said they got suspicious when the car, a Mitsubishi Lancer (TFV-269), turned off its

ANOTHER/ A22

A thief started this garment maker running

By Marinel R. Cruz

TALES OF THE CITY

BILLY Baluyot, 50, has been a conscientious jogger for 26 years now. He has also been a full-time tailor for 30 years now.

Baluyot takes pride in being able to run and compete in major running events all over the country, even when he had no interest and professional training in sports in his younger years.

His running days began in his hometown in Angeles, Pampanga, but it didn't have anything to do with either sports or fitness. He had to chase a petty thief who snatched clothes that were hanging out to dry in front of Baluyot's house.

But the thief got away. A frustrated Baluyot vowed to keep himself fit from then on.

"Ang taba ko noon, malaki ang tiyan ko, hindi ako nakahabol," he said. *"Simula noon, nag-*practice *na ako ng* jogging."

When he moved to Manila, he would jog every day for half an hour and do calisthenics for 15 minutes. He helped form a team among his newfound friends which they called Plaza Dilao Runners, a name taken from the place in Paco, Manila where they used to jog.

GARMENT maker Billy Baluyot finishes a 10-K marathon in Baguio City.

A THIEF/ A22

Erap's friends as headaches in Pinoy Times

PINOY Times

THE SUPER headaches given to President Estrada by the revelations last week about his allegedly deep involvement in the BW Resources scandal in the stock market top the stories in this week's issue of Pinoy Times Special Edition.

Also spotlighted are the President's close friend Charlie "Atong" Ang; the alleged bagman of Estrada's favorite paramour Laarni Enriquez; and the candid views about the Philippine situation of two former US ambassadors to the Philippines who revisited Manila last week.

The issue is now on sale at newsstands and from newsboys.

This issue as well as back issues of Pinoy Times Special Edition are available from the Pinoy Times offices, which can be reached through telephone numbers 912-97-22 and 912-98-22.

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Tan telling the truth on Yasay, Almadro

CONTROVERSIAL businessman Dante Tan's has said that former Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chair Perfecto Yasay and Ruben Almadro, former chief of the compliance and surveillance group of the Philippine Stock Exchange, extorted money from him.

That revelation probably shook some people. But it was nothing new to me.

Tan told me on separate occasions that Yasay and Almadro were demanding money from him in exchange for their going slow in investigating his alleged involvement in insider trading at the stock market through his firm, BW Resources Corp.

* * *

In fact, Tan casually asked me whether to give in to the "shakedown."

My casual reply: "Why will you give them bribes if you didn't commit any wrongdoing?"

The beleaguered tycoon said his business might suffer if the harassment from Yasay and Almadro would continue.

Apparently, Tan didn't follow my advice. And now, he regrets it.

* * *

Tan has been insisting that he was the loser in the mess that nearly caused the collapse of the stock market.

Many investors lost when BW shares went down abruptly after going up by leaps and bounds. But probably an equal number of investors also gained when they unloaded their BW stocks while they were still high.

This writer was one of those lucky investors.

* * *

I met Tan through a mutual friend, businessman and presidential friend Ramon Lee.

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

It was Lee, a big-time stock market player, who convinced me to invest in the BW shares while they were going up in the middle of 1999.

I put in my investments through A.T. de Castro Securities Corp.

It was beginner's luck. I unloaded my BW shares before they went down to ground level from a high of P107 per share.

* * *

This is not an attempt to defend Tan. If he's guilty of insider trading, the full force of the law should be brought to bear on him.

I brought this up because I'm appalled at the hypocrisy of some people who are testifying against Tan when they had extorted money from him.

I retched when I saw Yasay and Almadro on TV testifying at the impeachment trial.

* * *

When Laarni Enriquez, a mistress of impeached President Erap, sneaked out of the country apparently to escape a summons to testify in the impeachment trial, she was with a female companion, Bebu Manalo Bulchang.

Bulchang is well-known at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport as a *viajera*. But Bulchang's *viajera* days ended after Mr. Estrada became President.

If the impeachment court forces Enriquez to testify, it should also send summons to Bulchang, said my spy.

* * *

Teresita Ang- See, spokesperson of the Citizens Action Against Crime (CAAC), has accused Charlie "Atong" Ang, President Erap's friend, of being behind the kidnappings of at least three rich *Chinoys*.

Reacting to Ang-See's accusation, the President questioned its timing, saying she meant to destroy him at a time when he is being impeached.

It was unfair of Mr. Estrada to impute ill motives to Ang-See who's been helping the government in unmasking the kidnappers of rich *Chinoys*.

* * *

In fact, the President was so impressed with Ang-See's genuine concern for the kidnapping of Chinese Filipinos he appointed her one of the commissioners of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission.

Ang-See was a big help to the defunct Presidential Anti-Crime Commission (PACC) which then Vice President Estrada headed. She acted as a bridge between the PACC and relatives of kidnapped *Chinoys* who were suspicious of law enforcers.

Ang-See is knowledgeable when it comes to the kidnappings of Chinese-Filipinos. And the government had better listen to her.

* * *

The President said Ang-See should have taken up with him Atong Ang's alleged involvement in some kidnappings.

But Ang-See said she did just that, only Mr. Estrada ignored it.

I could believe Ang-See. At the time, the President apparently thought that his close friend and sidekick could do no wrong.

It is Charlie Ang who has brought all the troubles upon Erap.

Thieves take 10 cars in 1 week

BY AGNES E. DONATO

CAR THIEVES, striking in the wee hours of the morning, were able to steal 10 vehicles in Antipolo in just one week.

Newly reinstalled Antipolo City police chief Supt. Efren Yebra on Friday said he was surprised to learn of the resurgence in carnap cases.

Police records showed most of the cases occurred between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

The latest victim, Wilfredo Castro, reported to police on Friday that his white Isuzu Hilander (UUT 164) was stolen right in front of his house.

Other complainants were Cesar Romea, Noel Micua, Jose Sadrak, Dennis Grapil, Eduardo Alarcon, Eloisa de Castro, Efren Buenaventura, Rommel Apitana and Jovito Flores, all residents of Antipolo City.

Although handicapped by insufficient resources, Superintendent Yebra said he and his men are doing all they can to deter car thieves from striking again.

A source pointed to a former Traffic Management Group official as the alleged leader of the carnap syndicate.

The official, now based in Rizal province, was reportedly caught driving a stolen vehicle in 1999.

The source alleged that the official is now using three stolen vehicles—one for his family and the others for his own.

Atienza warns pranksters

PEOPLE behind bomb threats that turn out to be hoaxes face up to six years in jail if caught and found guilty, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza said yesterday.

Atienza said pranksters caught making calls about non-existent bombs could be charged under the provisions on public disorders of Article 153 of the Revised Penal Code.

The article provides that those caught and found guilty of causing any tumultuous disturbance or interruption liable to cause disturbances face a fine not exceeding P1,000 and a maximum prison term of six years.

Last week, many classes were abruptly cancelled and students, parents and teachers were thrown into panic as more than 20 schools in Manila received phoned-in bomb threats. But in every case, the police's explosives and ordnance experts found no bomb.

"These people think they're doing something funny, but they're not sure they won't be caught and put behind bars for carrying out what they consider as practical jokes," the mayor said in a press statement.

Atienza, however, said the police would continue to respond to the threats even if they later turn out to be pranks.

"Our paramount concern is the safety of the public," he said. "We call on them to remain vigilant and to report any bomb threat to the police because it is better to be safe than sorry."

'Dolphy' shot dead while walking in Quiapo

AN INSURANCE agent was shot dead by at least two unidentified men while he was waiting for a ride home along the busy C. M. Recto Avenue in Quiapo, Manila late Friday afternoon.

Dolphy Jumuad, 34, single, a representative of Pacific Insurance Corp. and resident of Quirino Highway, Barangay Bagbag, Novaliches, Quezon City, was shot in the right chest.

SPO4 Rodolfo Rivas Jr. of the Western Police District homicide section said Jumuad was waiting for a jeepney ride at the corner of Recto and Severino Street when he was shot at about 4:30 p.m. Friday.

Witnesses said at least two men approached Jumuad. One pulled out a handgun, shouted at the insurance agent and shot him as he turned around.

Two witnesses, Percival Balilo and Elson Esmeralda, brought Jumuad to the nearby Mary Chiles Hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival.

Investigators are trying to determine if the shooting was the result of an aborted holdup attempt on Jumuad or had something to do with his occupation. *Jerome Aning*

New ma steals to pay for hospital expenses

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

MARIBETH Miguel, 23, gave birth only a few days ago at the East Avenue Medical Center, but costly hospital bills allegedly forced her to steal from two other hospital patients, one of whom was a woman who had also just given birth.

Two patients saw what Miguel did and reported it to hospital authorities.

Miguel, of San Isidro Street, Camarin, Caloocan City, reportedly stole P2,000 from patient Erlinda Villegas, 44, of Cubao, Quezon City, and the wristwatch of a 17-year-old mother from UP Bliss, Philcoa, police said.

SPO4 Edmund Senido of the Kamuning police station said the two women were in the toilet on the hospital's second floor when Miguel struck at about 5 a.m. yesterday.

According to witnesses Nardita Baryan, 40, and Roger C. Cagtan, 34, Miguel first rummaged through the 17-year-old's belongings and took the wristwatch.

"Then, as if nothing happened, she went to Villegas' bed and took the P2,000 from her bag," Senido said.

But the 17-year-old discovered that her watch was missing and began to complain. The two witnesses then pointed security guards to Miguel, identifying her as the culprit.

Cheap water for the poor

PURIFIED drinking water to be sold at less than half the prevailing market price will be made available to poor communities in Parañaque City starting Jan. 18.

And in two to three months' time, more households in the city will enjoy better water delivery services as Maynilad Water Services Inc. continues to implement its three-year massive capital expenditure program. Maynilad is installing 87 km of pipeline and about 30,000 new water service connections in Parañaque alone.

On Thursday, Mayor Joey Marquez will inaugurate the first of Mayor Marquez's mineral water refilling stations (MWRS) at the Napoleon Compound in Barangay San Isidro. A total of 200 will be set up in the city's 16 barangays under the program called "Agua Masa."

Each station will provide pure drinking water to at least 250 families at less than 50 percent of the prevailing cost. It will sell a liter of purified water, excluding container, for 90 centavos, against the prevailing price of P2; a gallon for P3.50; and five gallons for P17.50.

Aquatech Systems of San Luis ST., Valley VI, Parañaque City will install in each refilling station a US-patented filtration equipment.

Buyers will eventually become members of a multi-purpose cooperative and will be issued water consumer ID cards.

The refill price for those with ID will remain at P2 per gallon, while those without will have to pay P4 per gallon refill.

DEATH BEFORE BREAKFAST

Vendor Arnold Liwanag, 32, of Pilar Street, Tondo, Manila, had just bought "pan de sal" for breakfast and was crossing the railroad tracks along Juan Luna Street when he was hit by a Caloocan-bound train early Friday morning. The train did not stop, police said. CALOY SANCHEZ

Another . . .

(From page A21)

headlights.

When Tamayo asked for a backup patrol unit, SPO4s Renato Condes and Laureto Leal responded.

When Miranda alighted from the patrol car and began to approach the Lancer, one of the men in the Lancer allegedly fired at the policeman, hitting him twice.

The other policemen returned fire, killing Abragan and Cortez, Barrameda said.

The policemen claimed that the third unidentified suspect, who escaped, was wounded.

Scene of the Crime Operations (Soco) team found a cal. 45 pistol, a .38 revolver, and several spent shells, Inspector Jaraza said.

On Thursday, PO2 Bienvenido B. Batac of the Cainta police was killed when he tried to arrest two suspected robbers who had just held up the passengers of an FX taxi in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

But before he died, Batac managed to shoot dead one suspect and wound the other.

A thief started this garment maker running

(From page A21)

Baluyot was in his early 40s then.

Along with the 15-member team, Baluyot started joining marathons. His first was the Coke-Aro 10K marathon that went around Makati.

Then followed a series of runs in several parts of Metro Manila, which Baluyot and his team also joined. Baluyot was especially proud of the first time he joined the annual 42-kilometer International PAL marathon in 1994.

To prepare for the PAL marathon, Baluyot would run for an hour every day. "I have been joining (the PAL marathon) for four years now," he says.

Another 42K run is scheduled on Feb. 25 but Baluyot says he will not join this time because of lack of practice.

Bread and butter

For those who have no inkling as to how far one should run in this competition, Baluyot explains: The race starts from the Rizal Park, goes all the way south to Bacoor, Cavite, and finishes at the corner of Sen. Gil Puyat (Buendia) and Ayala avenues.

For Baluyot, running is not only a sport that he enjoys very much. It's also his bread and butter.

For seven years now, he has been sewing jogging jerseys and shorts, which he sells to the runners he meets. This day job has helped him raise four sons all by himself.

He has been sewing clothes for 30 years now. He used to own a tailoring shop in Pampanga but he sold it when he decided to seek work abroad. For three years, he was a bartender in a music bar in Iran.

While in Iran, he earned extra money from sewing clothes. "*Basta marunong kang manahi*, sideline mo na 'yon," he says. "*Kahit saan ka pumunta, hindi ka mawawalan ng trabaho.*"

After his Iran job, Baluyot and his wife separated.

Legacy to children

But when he moved to Manila, his earnings from sewing were not enough anymore, so he started sewing uniforms for joggers as well. "*Basta may tumatakbo sa kalye, hindi ka mawawalan ng* customers," he says. "Para sa Plaza Dilao runners *ang unang* uniform *na ginawa ko*."

Baluyot obviously did well because known groups like the Republic Flour Mills (RFM) runners, which count more than 40 members, and the Tutuban joggers started going to him for their uniforms. Even Inquirer runners are now wearing Baluyot-made uniforms.

He works at home alone but says he needs help as orders are becoming regular. He even had to turn down some job orders to avoid disappointing customers because he knew he could not deliver on time.

But he doesn't want just anyone to help him and so he is teaching his sons to sew. He says that although he is poor, this can be his legacy to his children.

On Sundays, when he's not running in a marathon or sewing uniforms, he sells ready-to-wear jogging jerseys and shorts at the Quezon City Circle, a favorite of many joggers. Sometimes, the buyers pay the following week.

Cheap and sturdy

A set of Baluyot-made jogging outfit goes for a low P360. He says many of his buyers still use the uniforms they bought five years ago. "Buo pa," he beams. "Walang natatanggal na tahi. Double-stitching *kasi ang ginagawa ko*."

His earnings from the uniforms, he says, will not make him rich. "*Nakakaraos din sa hirap ng buhay ngayon. Napapakain ko rin ang apat na anak ko.*"

His income, however, is not enough to send all four children to school. "*Hindi na nga sila nakatapos ng pag-aaral*," he sighs.

On a typical day, Baluyot wakes up at 4 a.m., jogs at 5 and goes to market to buy food for lunch at 7. He starts sewing at 9 a.m. and stops only at 9 p.m.

He jogs three to four times a week and joins aerobics sessions at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) grounds in Pasay City every Wednesday and Thursday.

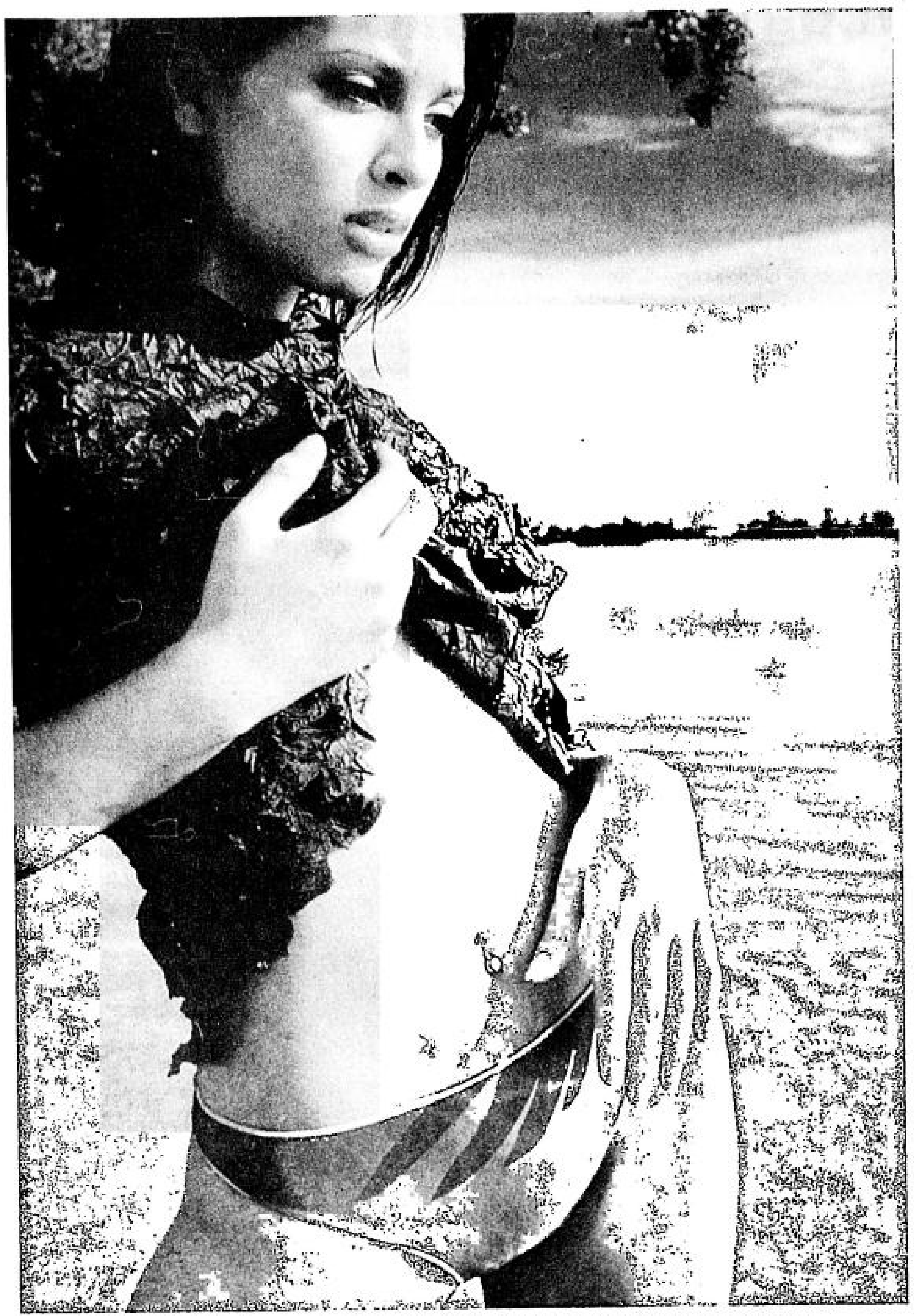
Will power

He used to encourage his neighbors to jog with him but was disheartened because they never paid attention to him and they would rather stay with their vices.

Though he admits that he drinks occasionally, he remains conscious of the need to exercise to flush out toxins in the body. "*Marami din naman tayong athletes who drink pero kontrolado ang pag-inom nila para hindi masira ang katawan*," he points out.

He advises smokers to quit, too. Smoking, he says, will do no good to people, especially non-smokers who deserve to breathe fresh air.

He is aware that quitting takes a lot of will power. Even in jogging, one has to struggle to get up from bed at dawn. "*Masarap kasing matulog lalo na sa madaling araw*," he says. "*Kailangan din may tiyaga ka.*"



A FOR AMBITION. Giselle says she's investing in her future by going to the United States.

G without an 'e'

By Leah Salterio

NEW year means new priorities, a new career and a different name for Giselle Tongi. That's right, Tongi.

For G, the new year means no more Prada bags, no more shopping sprees. And now that she's setting her sights on American show business, it also means no more "e" in her last name.

Three months ago, the 22-year-old G left for New York initially for a much-needed vacation. But she went there armed with her portfolio, resumé and video tapes of her work.

"I wanted to test the waters," G says.

It helped that her older sister Avie is based in New Jersey and tried to help her meet the right people.

"My sister had to quit her job to help me," G shares. "She was very supportive the whole time I was there."

She was idle in the first month. Except for a guest appearance in Martin Nievera's concert at the Hunter College in New Jersey, G spent her time babysitting her nephew, going to the gym or sitting in Central Park on autumn afternoons. She also had yoga sessions.

But in the second month, G started meeting the right people who could pave the way,for the realization of her dream.

New York lawyer Bob Perlstein, who works for Lea Salonga and Gary Valenciano, arranged for G to meet with an agent. Soon, G found herself being interviewed by six agents, led by Ricky Olshen.

The panel watched G's 10-minute video, which covers her Philippine stints as TV host, actress, dancer and recording artist. It includes her interviews with such celebrities as Ricky Martin, Mariah Carey and Gloria Estefan, her movies like "Deliryo," "Langit sa Piling Mo" and "Hinahanap-Hanap Kita," her hosting of programs like "SOP" and "Eezy Dancing," and her TV commercials.

Meeting celebrities

While her working papers were being processed, she attended events where she was able to hobnob with celebrities.

"I went to the Tommy Hilfiger party and to a French photographer's exhibit, where I met New York City Mayor Rudy Guilliani," she says. "I also attended the GQ Men of the Year awards."

On the street, she saw former "Three's Company" star John Ritter. In a parlor, she ran into English actress Dame Judi Dench.

"Just being in that environment, meeting different people, is great," G asserts. "Thank God, I have a team behind me. They are helping me a lot."

But G's disappearance from the Philippine entertainment scene triggered rumors.

"Even my mom called me up and asked me if I was really pregnant," she says. "But I'm used to negative criticism. I went to New York because I needed a change of scenery and environment.

"I felt that in show biz here, my world was getting smaller and smaller. With every move you make, everyone is looking at you trying to find something wrong with what you're doing. In the States, they take you as you are. I like their system. They're so professional."

'What if?'

She claims she has no regrets about giving up what she had here just so she could pursue her dream of going international.

"I really want to have a career in the US," she says. "That has always been my dream, regardless of the outcome. I didn't want to live my life and say, 'What if?' At least, I can say I had the guts to do it."

Show biz industry insiders think G's decision to leave her show biz career in the Philippines is not a wise move. G of course thinks otherwise.

"People are saying that my going to New York would jeopardize my career here," G says. "Some are even saying it's the most stupid thing to do. But I'm only 22. If I go back after two years, I'll only be 24. I'm leaving because I'm investing in my future."

Relaxed and happy

She feels "now is the best time" to be in the United States.

"If I don't leave now, I never will," she says. "I know that I left at the right time. Here, I've been working so hard, almost every day. Sometimes, my schedule starts as early as 7 a.m. and I work straight till dawn.

"I also have a fast-paced lifestyle here. I'm always out with my friends. In New York, I'm just with my family so I'm more relaxed. There, I'm nobody. I cook, do the dishes, the laundry, and I commute. And even if I don't have work, I'm happy."

She says she didn't join show biz six years ago to become a superstar.

"My idol is Dawn Zulueta," G says. "She's not a superstar, but look at where she is now. She's happy. I just wanted to get good work, something that I can be proud of.

"I guess it's just a matter of being selfish. Do I want to stay here and make more money, or leave and think of the future? But I'm sure only God can make everything happen for me there."

And on the 6th day, Arnie talks to the press

By Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—"You should see my body."

Arnold Schwarzenegger was replying to a reporter's question why he had a tan (lobster red was more like it).

"Please," begged a lovely, statuesque South African reporter, her hands clasped in a plea.

"You should let me finish," said the smiling five-time Mr. Universe and seven-time Mr. Olympia. "You should see my body because I have five mosquito bites. I have been on location in Mexico filming 'Collateral Damage.' I am tanned because we have been filming outdoors, in the jungle."

Unlike other actors who, during interviews, would behave as if they would rather undergo root canal than talk to the press, the Terminator was cool and relaxed in the company of six reporters inside a hotel room one afternoon.

Ah-nuld's famous physique was wrapped in a shiny gray jacket over black shirt, and blue jeans with Western-style belt. He was growing a beard but his hair was newly trimmed, blow-dried and brushed up—surely the handiwork of an expensive Beverly Hills hair stylist. Huge rings adorned one finger on both hands.

At 53, he is still the undisputed action star in many countries, including the Philippines, where his movies such as "Terminator 2," "True Lies," "Total Recall" and "Eraser" have broken the box office.

His last movie shown in Manila, "End of Days," was reportedly a hit in the Philippines in 1999, besting such films as "Star Wars: Phantom Menace," "The Matrix" and "The Mummy."

Action still rules in his latest movie, Columbia Pictures' "The 6th Day" where the story, as the cliché goes, is as timely as today's headlines.

The film deals largely with cloning, where not one but two Austrians with puffed pecs are running about saving the world. *US Weekly*, in its review, called it "easily the best Schwarzenegger film since 'Terminator 2.'"

Here are excerpts of our interview with The Arnold:

If cloning were to become a reality, what do you think two Arnold Schwarzeneggers would do in this world? Will one be an actor and the other run for public office?

What about one going out and playing 18 holes of golf everyday without feeling guilty? What about one just hanging out with the family all day? There would be many reasons why cloning would actually be cool but we know too little about it to really know what the downside would be. The ramifications could be very strange. There would be endless questions like whose bank account would it be, whose Social Security number, and other questions that no one has yet figured out the answers to. But I think they have to have a go at it because it's not too far away.

Why did you do want to do this one?

The subject of cloning fascinated me. When I read the first 10 pages, I liked the scene of this guy coming home and seeing himself. I thought, this is good. I would like to act that out. It must be wild to be able to see yourself in the house having a good time with your family. You think, this is a clone.

Then there are people trying to take your life because they've cloned the wrong guy and from that point on, you are always on the run trying to get your life back. It's like being a fugitive. There is this guy who is thrown into this madness. He's on the run, just because he was at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Do you see yourself going more into production and not starring or is it always going to be a combined thing?

I don't see myself as a Mike Medavoy. He's great in doing what he does. We should not try to be something that we are not. To be a guy like him who takes risks, buys scripts, finds the financing, grinds it out—I respect that but that is a totally different profession from what I do.

A lot of actors have been talked into by their agents and lawyers to start their own production companies—and it's all bogus. There is no production company, none of these guys make any movies and these guys are always in a fight with their partners because the partners are involved in the script. These partners have arranged the financing and readied the script, but you say: "But I've just been offered by Warner Brothers to work with Joel Schumacher. I'd rather do that movie." Then a big fight happens. That's what usually happens.

In my case, I let them produce the movie, let them raise the money, let them have the headaches and, in the meantime, I will ski. Then I come back, and act in the movie, although I like to be involved with the whole pre-production, the development and the promotion.

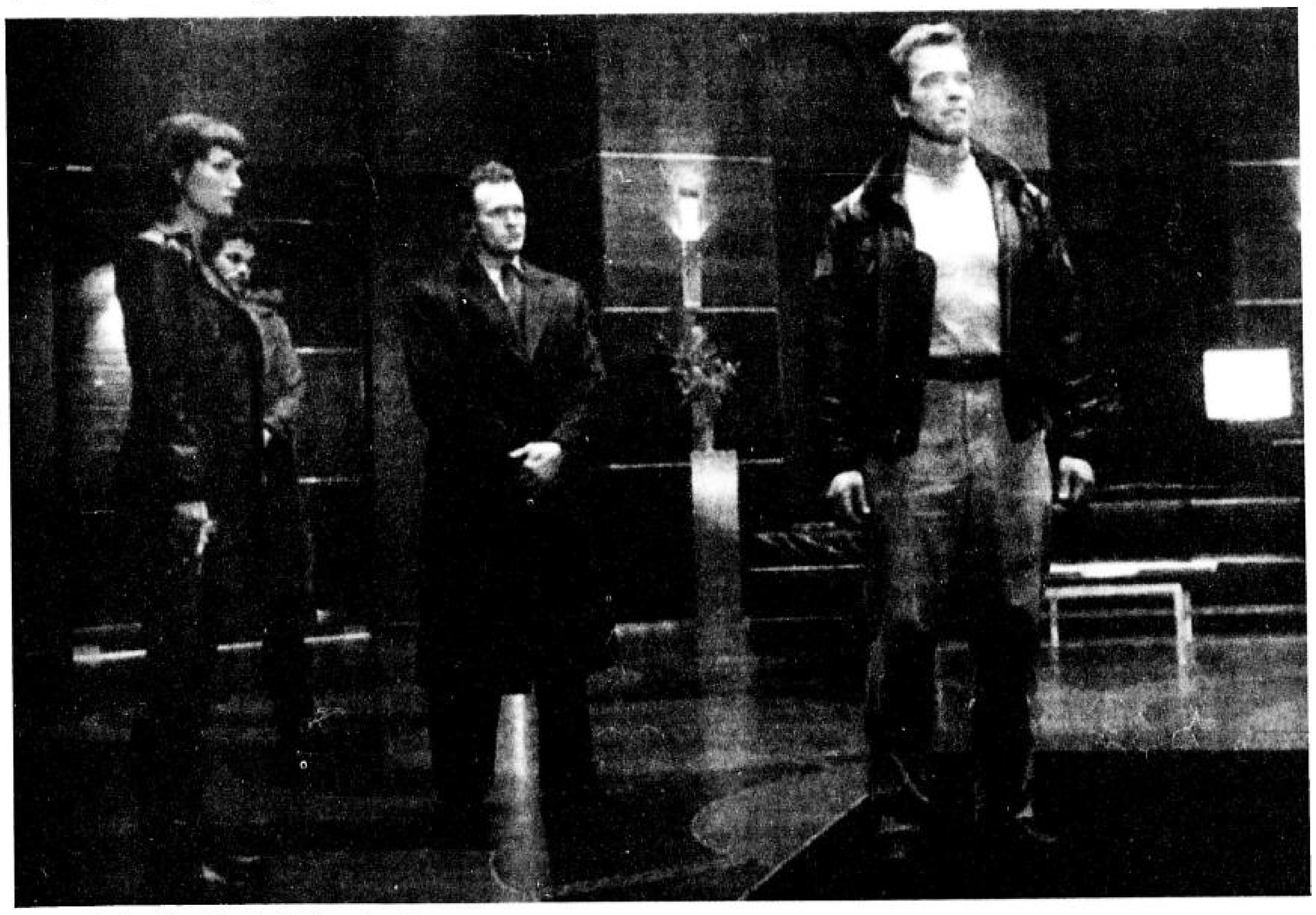
I read in the papers that for your kids to understand the value of money and work, you let them sell lemonade over the weekends. Is that true?

My kids sell everything. They sell lemonade, cookies, ice cream—the same thing I did when I was 10 years old. I used to buy ice cream for 50 shillings, sell it around the lake where I grew up and come back with 150 shillings and make a profit. My kids do the same thing.

So you try not to spoil them too much.

Well, you still spoil them. They will never grow up like I did. We would have to take them maybe to—I don't know where in the world—to make them grow up like me. It doesn't have to be like after the Second World War, when there was poverty, there wasn't enough food and my father had to go from farm to farm trying to look for food for his kids. It was a totally different environment. No flushing

AND ON THE 6TH/ A24



THE REAL Arnold teaches his kids the value of money.

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JANUARY 14 - 20
Primetime Schedule

Sun Jan. 14 Joyce Jimenez
Sunday's Bida sa Takilya:
BILIB AKO SA IYO

Mon Jan. 15 Joko Diaz
Umaatikabong Aksyon sa Lunes:
GREPOR "BUTCH" BELGICA STORY

Tue Jan. 16 Andrew E.
Tuesday's Tambay Time:
ANDREW FORD MEDINA

Wed Jan. 17 Dina Bonnevie
Madamdaming Miyerkules:
MAGDUSA KA

Thu Jan. 18 Fernando Poe Jr.
Director's Masterpiece:
HINDI PA TAPOS ANG LABAN

Fri Jan. 19 Jean Garcia
Premiere Express sa Biyernes:
SGT. CARLITO NUNEZ, KAHIT DEMONYO ITUTUMBA KO

Sat Jan. 20 Ma. Isabel Lopez
KSP (Knockout Saturday Premiere):
ISLA

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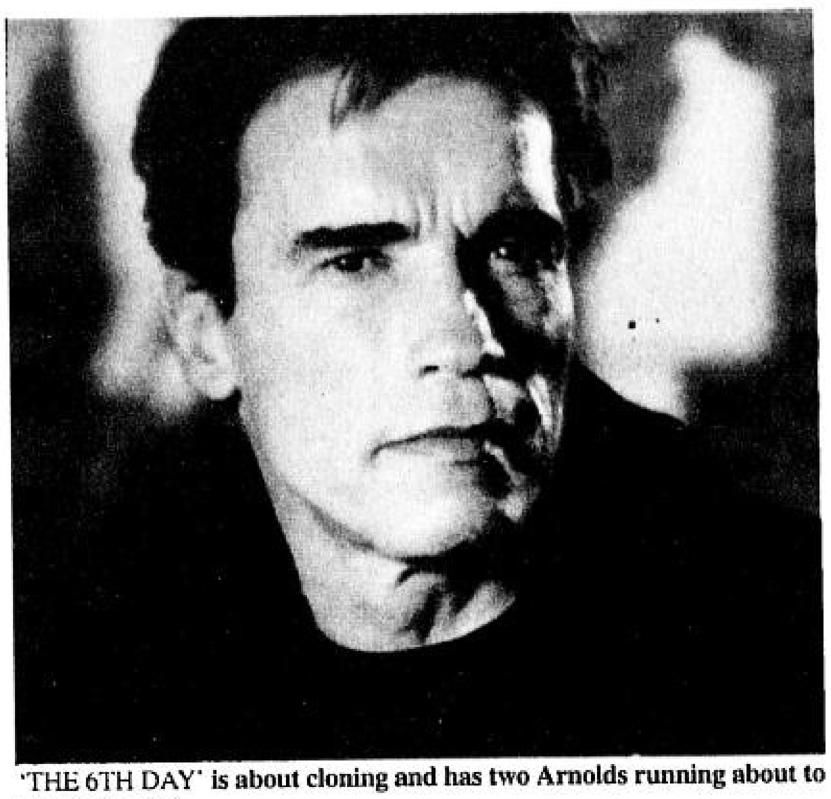
And on the 6th day, Arnie talks to the press



'THE 6TH DAY' is about cloning and has two Arnolds running about to save the world.

(From page A23)

toilets, no TVs, no telephones. Where do you find that today?

When I talk to inner city kids about making it in life, I think the reason they listen to me is because they know the way I grew up. I tell them, how many of you have a television set? They all raise their hands. I say, I didn't. They say, "You didn't?" They couldn't believe that. These poor kids in East LA or South Central. I also ask them, how many of you have flushing toilets? And they all raise their hands. And I say, I didn't.

Coming from that kind of background, when you first made money, did you go a little crazy buying stuff?

No. I was quite the opposite. I was very careful. I always spend money very conservatively and I always had a good business mind. I can't take credit for that, but some people just have a flair for it, they have common sense, and have street smarts. Somehow, I grew up with these.

I always say that I was attracted a lot of times to people who have those qualities. I remember when I first came to this country, there was a guy by the name of Joe Weider who went to auction houses, buying art and investing in art. I hung out with him all the time because it was like being in school, and this practical experience, the art of negotiation, to haggle, I learned from him.

We are always reading about aging actresses in Hollywood. Do you think it's much easier for men? And how do you feel about it personally? Does it make you nervous?

There are no two ways about it, for men or for women. Getting old sucks. You have to be really tough to handle it. You always have a make-up artist tell you everyday for the last two years, "There's an extra wrinkle around your eyes." Maybe eventually you have to get a good tuck in your eyes (laughs). It could take your self-confidence away. I happen to be very secure because I come from a very strong foundation, from sports, and all those courses on self-confidence, winning and all those things. Imagine some actresses who are on shaky ground. It must be wild. No wonder some of them are on drugs and alcohol.

What's your stance on plastic surgery?

AS: Especially in the profession that I am in, you should do it if it would really help you in your career and if you want to look young. People do it all the time. Maybe twenty years ago, it threw me off when I heard about it. But today, I can accept it much more.

How long will I go without it and when will I feel comfortable to do it? I'm far from being there.

And what will your wife say about that?

She'll be lying next to me and say: "what about me?"

You said earlier that the genre has changed since the 80s. How do you approach this change as you've gotten older?

You change right along with it. As the baby boomers have changed, I think I have changed. We're the same age.

SEEN& HEARD

SEEN . . . **Vina Morales** and her foreigner boyfriend **Roy Ozek** dining at the Oyster Bar at Rockwell Center early last week, with a group of friends, mostly young businessmen . . . Newlyweds **David Bunevacz** and **Jessica Rodriguez**, at sidewalk tables also at Oyster Bar on the same night, with Jessica's best friend and maid of honor, **Jessica Guevarra** and actress **Samantha Lopez** . . . Actor **Patrick Guzman**, with his own group of friends, still at Oyster, still on the same night . . . **Kris Aquino** with two journalist-friends, also at Oyster that night.

. . . **Ces Campos**, who took over from **Lea Salonga** as Kim in the ongoing Manila production of "Miss Saigon," and publicist-talent manager-future politician **Boy Abunda** meeting for the first time at Dulcinea on Tomas Morato in Quezon City. Ces and Kim alternate **Ima Castro**, who's been getting rave notices, lunched together with Backroom's **Mary Anne Sta. Ana** while waiting for Boy . . . **Zsa Zsa Padilla** and **Kristine Hermosa** at the launch of **Marissa Sanchez**'s album to give the heavyweight singer-comedienne moral support. . .

* * *

HEARD . . . people realizing the uncanny "pattern" among **President Estrada**'s other women, including **Guia Gomez, Laarni Enriquez, Joy Melendrez, Rowena Lopez** and the one who is said to be the latest presidential favorite. All their surnames end with "ez," including the current flavor of the month, who is only in her late 20s and who has just been appointed to a very sensitive position. . . that sexy actress **Amanda Page** has tied the knot with a non-show biz guy named **Danny Hebron** . . . that Kris Aquino is planning to go to Bangkok, which she has never visited, just to shop . . . that, despite previous reports of their affair, many people were still surprised to see lovebirds **Martin Nievera** and **Katrina Ojeda** photographed together after Martin's New Year's Eve countdown concert at the NBC Tent in The Global City.

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Love and cash and changes among stars in the new year

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

HALFWAY into the first month of 2001, have you been able to stick to your New Year's resolutions so far?

Since resolutions are oftentimes meant to be broken, I didn't bother anymore to ask the stars what they wanted to change in themselves this year. Instead I tried to look back and reflect on my candid conversations with some of them. Somehow, one can read between the lines and tell what's going on in their minds.

Since there were no tape recorders or cameras around when I talked to them, the stars were being themselves when they shared their random thoughts with me.

Charlene Gonzales: "Sometimes you realize that you really love someone when that person is out of your life already."

Pops Fernandez: "When someone leaves, you don't hope and wait for him to come back. Feel good about yourself and say, next please!"

Marvin Agustin: "When something goes wrong, I try to solve it right away. I don't wait for January to make changes in my life."

Maricel Soriano: "People think *na komo artista ka parati kang maraming pera. Minsan puro tseke ang hawak ko at halos wala akong* cash *sa* bag so *hihiram muna ako. Magaling lang mag-*project *ang mga artista* so *akala ng mga tao* rich *kami parati.*"

Sharon Cuneta: "There are some guys who are just born ——. You can't change them no matter how much you love them."

Dina Bonnevie: "One irony of love is when you feel like settling down, your boyfriend does not propose. *Ni hindi ka pa ipinapakilala sa* parents *niya. Minsan naman ayaw mong magpaka-*serious and suddenly he asks you to marry him."

A veteran actress to a make-up artist: "Don't wipe my face with that toilet paper! Do you think my face is a butt?"

If I may add this one-liner, I'd like to say to D.V. (applicable to all romantic fools like me!), "I would be a better me if I could only end up with you."

***

My spy in LA relayed to me that **Carmina Villaroel** gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, in an LA hospital on Jan. 8. Fraternal or identical? Let's wait for the official announcement.

Jessa Zaragosa is in full bloom these days. Being in love with **Dingdong Avanzado** has worked wonders for her. Some people even say that she now resembles **Meryll Streep** and **Kate Winslet**. That's what love can do.

MTB viewers commend the fair judging of the Ms Calendar Girl contest last week. Miss October was obviously the crowd favorite, but that didn't affect the judges, who chose Miss May.

Ruffa Mae Quinto's funny accent in the sitcom "Arriba! Arriba!" has made a dent. Even Pinoy viewers in the US imitate her. So is it goodbye to those Pinoy-American accents?

Martin Nievera's birthday/anniversary concert will undoubtedly be jampacked. People are wondering if Pops will watch the show. Loyal fans of the estranged concert king and queen can hardly wait to see what surprise number Martin will come up with in relation to Pops. Pops sang Martin's song "Ain't No Way To Treat A Heart" in her "Shindig" concert. Now it's Martin's turn.

For feedback e-mail wateringhole2000@yahoo.com

AUSTIN

Pinoy favorite returns in pre-Valentine series

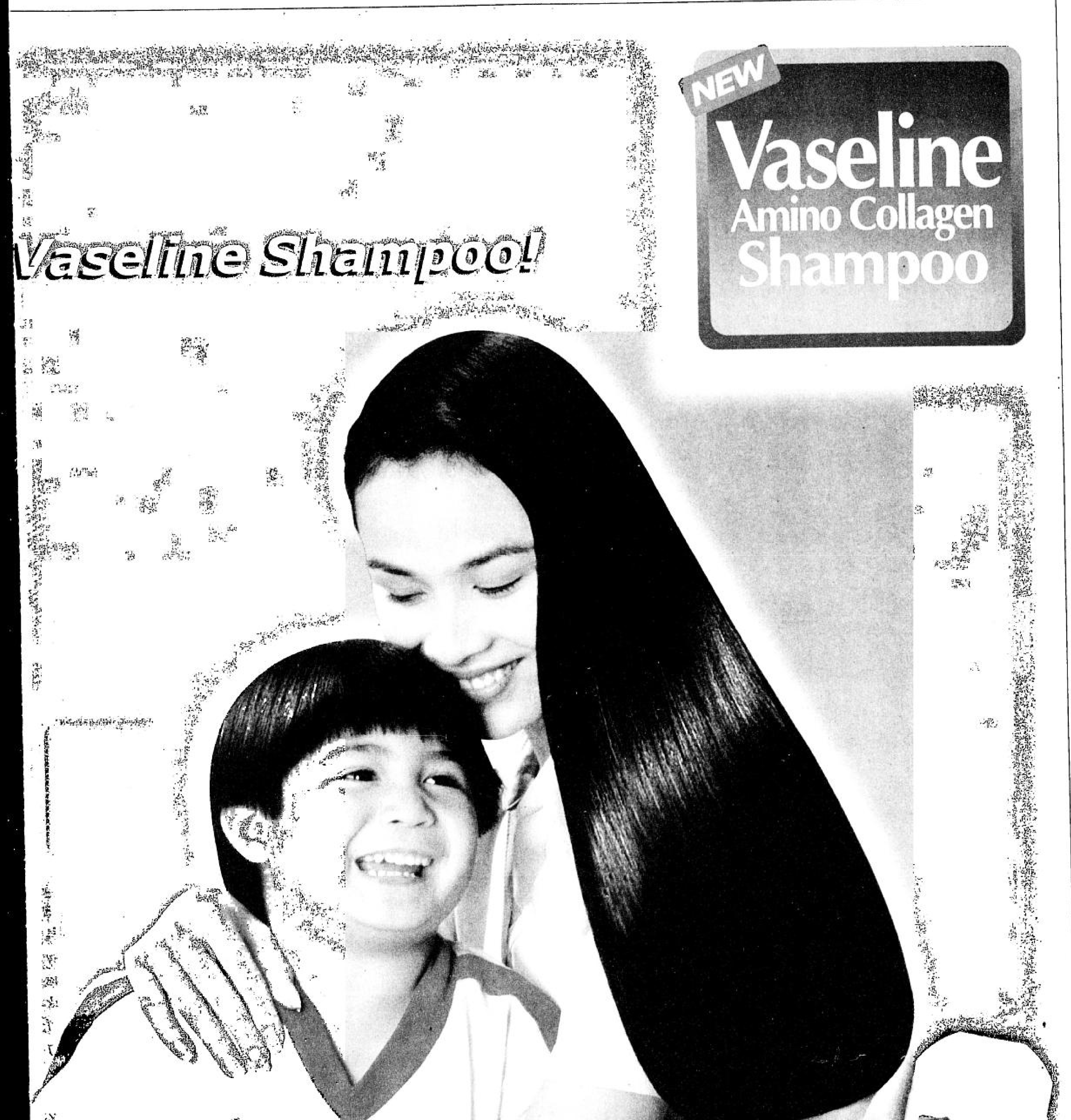
PATTI Austin, a perennial favorite of Filipino music lovers, returns to Manila with El Debarge, the man behind such hits as "Starlight Express" and "Who's Holding Donna Now," in "Reminiscing 3" at the Araneta Coliseum on Feb. 9 and 10.

Austin's voice made hits out of such songs as "Baby Come to Me," "How Do You Keep the Music Playing," "Say That You Love Me," "In My Life" and "Love Me Again," which have earned for her a loyal global fan base across America, Europe and the Far East, including the Philippines.

Popularity has kept Austin constantly on the road, particularly in support of AIDS-related causes.

"Reminiscing 3" is the latest in a successful series. "Reminiscing 1" was held at the Folk Arts Theater on Feb. 12 and 13, 1999 with David Pomeranz, Michael Johnson and Stephen Bishop. "Reminiscing 2" was held Feb. 11 and 12, 2000 at the Araneta Coliseum and featured Kenny Rankin, Rex Smith, Angela Bofil and Christopher Cross.

Tickets to "Reminiscing 3" are available at all SM TicketNet outlets. For more information, call 911-5555 and 893-0026.



Why nice girls go bold

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

THE START of Film Year 2001 has seen the shift to "bold" roles of heretofore "sweet" actresses like **Mylene Dizon** and **Rica Peralejo.**

Dizon in particular doesn't like it when people describe her now as a sexy star, since she feels that her daring scenes in "Gatas" were well-motivated, but there's no doubt that her scenes in that movie were more daring than the ones she did in her previous TV-film outing.

So, the question remains: Why do nice girls like Mylene and Rica finally decide to dare and bare in the movies?

For her part, Rica doesn't deny the fact that she decided to do bold scenes in "Balahibong Pusa" to energize her rise to screen stardom.

Taking her cue from other nice girls gone bold like **Gloria Diaz, Elizabeth Oropesa, Rio Locsin** and **Lorna Tolentino**, she's taking one of the movie industry's traditional routes to stardom, in the hope that, once her boldness has established her as a lead player, she will be able to "graduate," like Lorna and company, to "serious" dramatic roles that will no longer require her to go sexy.

Mylene must also be hoping that the same thing happens to her career, although her semi-nude scenes in "Gatas" aren't as daring as Rica's topless sequence in "Balahibong Pusa." In any case, if both films do well at the box office, it's a fair bet that producers will offer the two young actresses some follow-up projects.

The motivation is clear and its success rate is pretty high, but we must ask ourselves why this sort of "sexy-serious" *quid pro quo* is regarded as standard operating procedure in local show biz.

Following it, young actresses do eventually get what they want, but why should they feel obliged to go that way in the first place?

There have been scores of young women who have achieved stardom without having to bare, so why do others opt for this "fast-track" route? Why can't they work hard and wait until their good performances eventually result in

WHY/p.A27

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5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	TANGING YAMAN
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7	DOLBY SURROUND	KANGKONG
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS

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5	DOLBY DIGITAL	THE 6TH DAY
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
7	DOLBY SURROUND	LETS GO TAMIYA
8	DOLBY SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
9	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	GATAS

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5	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER
6	DOLBY SURROUND	THE 6TH DAY
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	GATAS
8	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
9	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
10	DOLBY SURROUND	PING LACSON STORY
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5	DOLBY DIGITAL	LEGEND OF BAGGER
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	MEET THE PARENTS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	LETS GO TAMIYA
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
10	DOLBY SURROUND	GATAS
11	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
12	DOLBY SURROUND	KANGKONG

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR [illegible] 8820950

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3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KANGKONG

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4	DTS	ART MOVIE
5	DOLBY SURROUND	LETS GO TAMIYA
6	DOLBY SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KANGKONG
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
9	DOLBY SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
10	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	GATAS
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS

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3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	GATAS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	BALAHIBONG PUSA
5	DOLBY SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LEGEND OF BAGGER
7	DTS	DEATH ROW
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	THE 6TH DAY
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LETS GO TAMIYA
10	DOLBY SURROUND	EMPERORS NEW GROOVE
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SP[IRIT WARRIORS
12	DOLBY SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP

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4	ULTRA SURROUND	TANGING YAMAN
5	ULTRA SURROUND	MEET THE PARENTS
6	ULTRA SURROUND	SPIRIT WARRIORS
7	ULTRA SURROUND	GATAS
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9	ULTRA SURROUND	PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
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4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	GATAS

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4 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (Phil. Premiere) Art Film in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 TANGING YAMAN In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 MEET THE PARENTS in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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1 LEGEND OF BAGGER VANCE in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
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3 BALAHIBONG PUSA in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
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3 MEET THE PARENTS in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
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6 GOLD (SDDS) SPIRIT WARRIORS
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5
6

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3 TANGING YAMAN
4 (SDDS) BALAHIBONG PUSA
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7 (DTS) LETS GO TAMIYA
8 PING LACSON STORY
9 GATAS

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3 TANGING YAMAN
4 SPIRIT WARRIORS
5 (SDDS) THE 6TH DAY
6 BALAHIBONG PUSA
7 (DOLBY) PREDATOR FROM THE DEEP
8 KANGKONG

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2 TANGING YAMAN
3 (DTS) LETS GO TAMIYA
4 BALAHIBONG PUSA
5 (SDDS) THE 6TH DAY
6 (DOLBY) BALAHIBONG PUSA
7 (DOLBY) KANGKONG

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3 KANGKONG

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2 TANGING YAMAN
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4 BALAHIBONG PUSA
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4 THE 6TH DAY
5 PING LACSON STORY
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2 GATAS
3 TANGING YAMAN

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2 THE 6TH DAY
3 GATAS

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3 KANGKONG
4 GATAS

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2 GATAS
3 UNBREAKABLE
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4 THE 6TH DAY

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TIMES	WHAT LIES BENEATH / ANACONDA 2000
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ACT-3	HIRAM NA KATAWAN
ACT-4	BIRADOR
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CINEMA-5 (DTS)	THE 6TH DAY
CINEMA-6	BALAHIBONG PUSA
CINEMA-7	SPIRIT WARRIORS
CINEMA-8	TANGING YAMAN
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MEET THE PARENTS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE 6TH DAY
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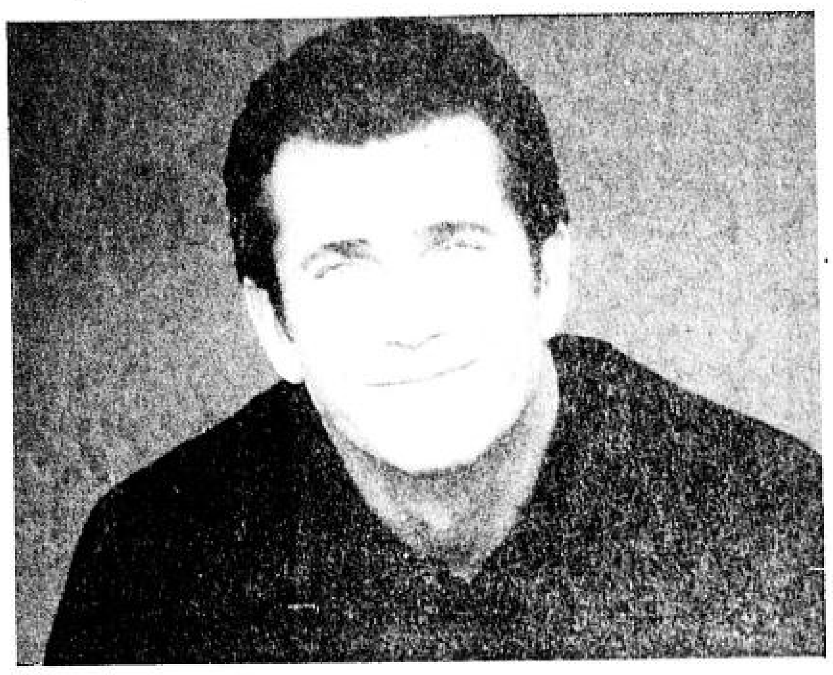

GIBSON

Mel Gibson's back and he knows what women want

WHILE the memory of his moving performance in "The Patriot" is still alive in the mind of Philippine moviegoers, Mel Gibson is back with a new movie.

The blue-eyed Gibson stars in Paramount Pictures' "What Women Want," a romantic comedy directed by Nancy Meyers (director of "The Parent Trap" and writer of "Private Benjamin," "Baby Boom").

Starring with the Australian native are Academy Award Best Actress Helen Hunt ("As Good As It Gets"), Best Supporting Actress Marissa Tomei ("My Cousin Vinny"), Mark Feuerstein, Lauren Holly and Alan Alda.

In "What Women Want," Gibson is Nick Marshall, a charming and irrepressible bachelor who suddenly discovers he can hear the innermost thoughts of every woman he meets.

"What Women Want" is the married Gibson's first foray into romantic comedy.

One of Hollywood's megastars, Gibson has worked with the world's best directors in their best works, like George Miller's "Mad Max," Peter Weir's "Gallipolli," both made in Australia, and the critically acclaimed, shot-in-Manila "The Year of Living Dangerously" (which also starred Sigourney Weaver, Bembol Roco and Kuh Ledesma) also directed by Weir.

His 23 years in movies has so far brought him two Oscar Awards (as director and producer of Best Picture "Braveheart") plus a long list of blockbuster movies to his credit. In 2000 alone, he starred in three movies that exceeded the $100-million mark—"The Patriot," "Chicken Run" (as an animated character's voice) and "What Women Want."

The movie, distributed in the Philippines by Pioneer Films, will open on Jan. 31. Pop radio station Magic 89.9 DWTM is sponsoring a premiere.

Why . . .

(From page A26)

stardom?

It may take more time, but it's worked for all those women in the past, so why can't it work for today's young, "nice" starlets as well?

Some young people these days are just too impatient, it seems. **Jessa Zaragosa**'s case is an object lesson as far as this goes: Years ago, Jessa's show biz career wasn't getting anywhere, so she decided to go bold in one movie. Alas, the move didn't result in abiding stardom, so Jessa dropped out of sight once more, only to emerge sometime later as a hit singer.

These days, Jessa's claim to fame is not her screen stardom, but her success as a singer. So, her bold gambit went pretty much for naught, and it was her genuine singing talent that finally saw her through.

I trust that other young actresses will learn from this and decide to rely on their talent and wait patiently until stardom finds them in its own good time. That way, they won't have to kick themselves in the behind for a bold investment that doesn't pay off.

Feedback

FROM **Merlinda Abellanosa** of Cagayan de Oro City: "My family and I watch the TV show of **Christopher de Leon**, 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire' because it tests our general knowledge of miscellaneous subjects as well as teaches us about some things we are not familiar with.

"What bothers us is that the host asks questions such as 'Are you sure?' or 'final answer?' before telling the contestant whether his answer is right or wrong. I think this sometimes makes the contestant doubt his answer (even if it is correct) and adds to his nervousness.

"I hope De Leon will avoid doing this and just say 'correct' or 'sorry, wrong answer' and be done with it!"

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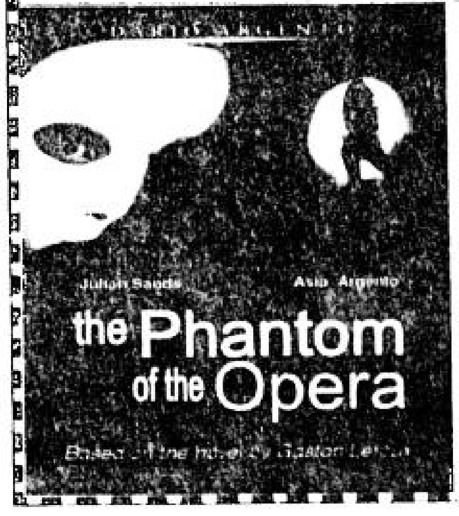

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"He" is the
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and nightmares.

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— Dario Argento

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BALAHIBONG PUSA 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	THE 6TH DAY 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 5:50, 7:10, 9:40	MEET THE PARENTS 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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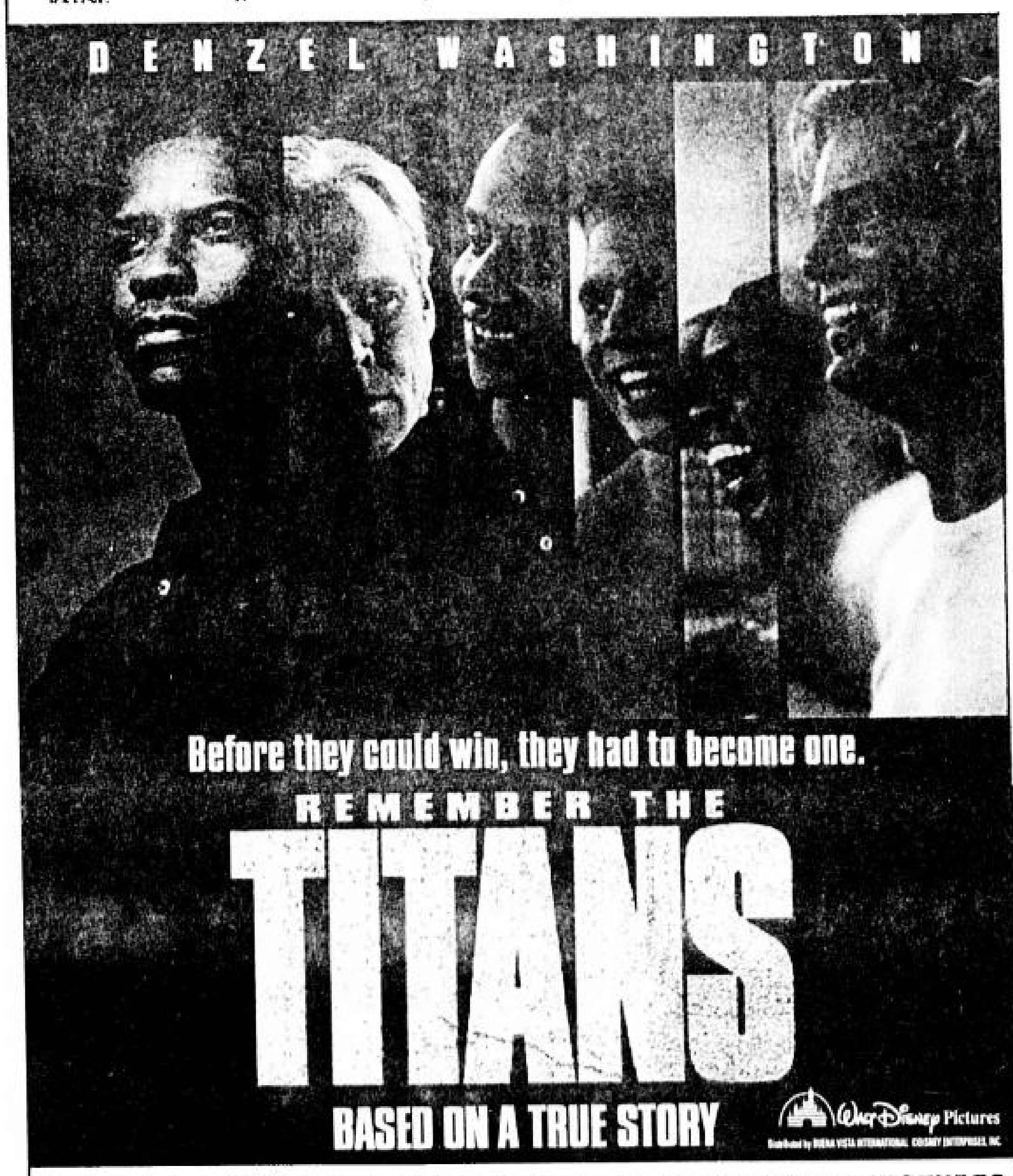

Before they could win, they had to become one.
REMEMBER THE TITANS
BASED ON A TRUE STORY
Walt Disney Pictures
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A NEW COLONY SURFACES ON JAN. 17!
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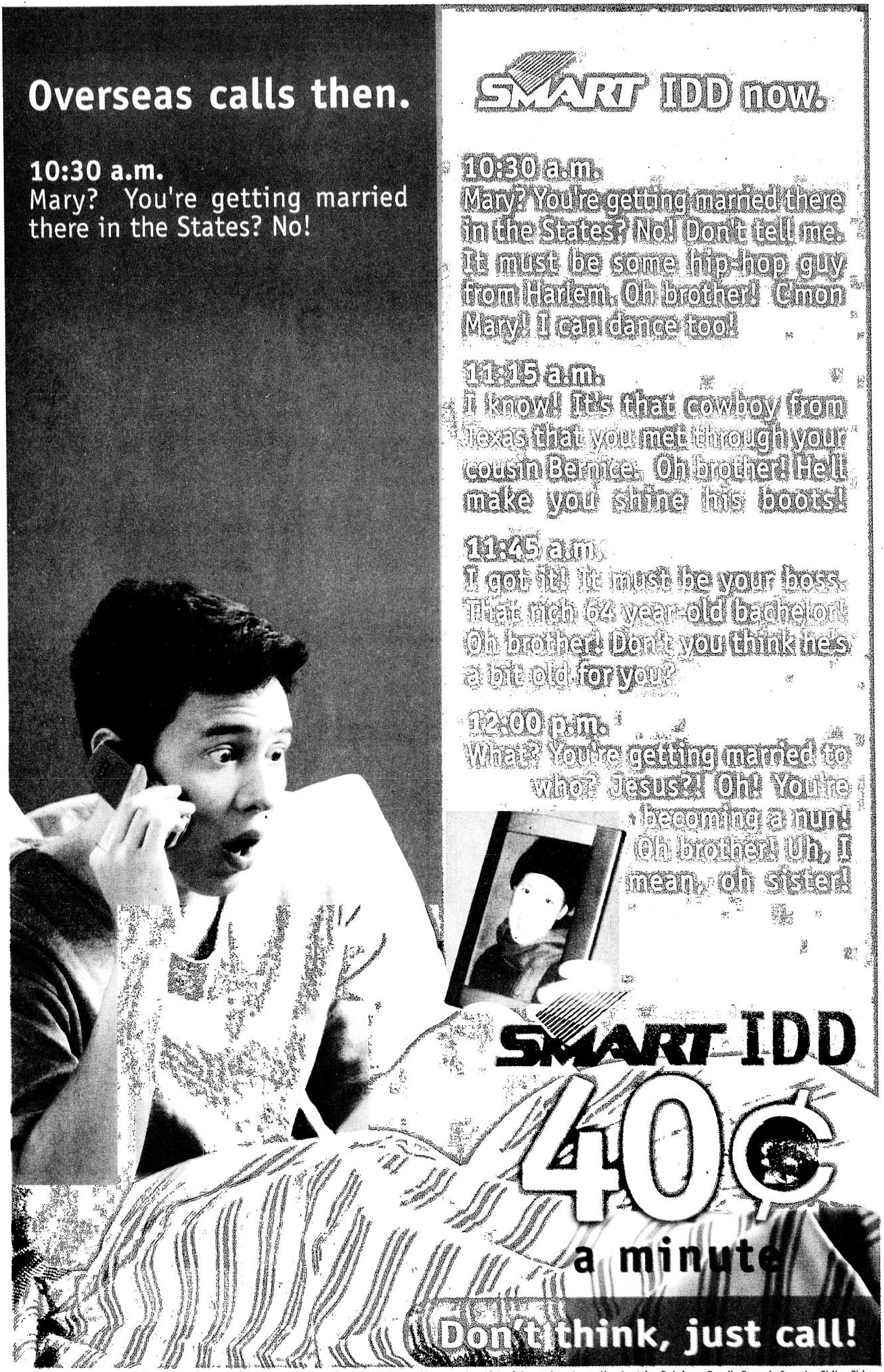
CARRIE-ANNE MOSS
TOM SIZEMORE
NOT A WARNING
NOT A CHANCE
RED PLANET
89.9 MAGIC



Overseas calls then.

10:30 a.m.
Mary? You're getting married there in the States? No!

SMART IDD now.

10:30 a.m.
Mary? You're getting married there in the States? No! Don't tell me. It must be some hip-hop guy from Harlem. Oh brother! C'mon Mary! I can dance too!

11:15 a.m.
I know! It's that cowboy from Texas that you met through your cousin Bernice. Oh brother! He'll make you shine his boots!

11:45 a.m.
I got it! It must be your boss. That rich 64 year-old bachelor! Oh brother! Don't you think he's a bit old for you?

12:00 p.m.
What? You're getting married to who? Jesus?! Oh! You're becoming a nun! Oh brother! Uh, I mean, oh sister!

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SundayBIZ

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ▪ MARGIE QUIMPO-ESPINO, Business Features Editor

Exec trades in banker's suit for venture capitalist's jeans

By Elena R. Torrijos

ANTIPORDA (second from right) is now a full-fledged entrepreneur. He leads the management of Pacific Wharf together with (from left) senior manager Adrian M. Antiporda, vice president Sally M. Bustamante and restaurant manager Mavic Mathay.

I NEVER thought entre preneurship could be so much fun," banker-turned-venture capitalist Tirso Antiporda says.

Gone are the days when he used to wear his business suits to work. These days, Antiporda is free to wear almost anything he wants now that he is his own boss.

Antiporda turned from employee to employer in 1998 when he left his post as chief executive and chair of United Coconut Planters Bank to pursue other interests.

He put up venture capital firm Milestone Holdings Corp. with longtime executive assistant Sally Bustamante and other investors.

MHC aims to help promising entrepreneurs turn excellent business ideas and relevant skills into healthy business ventures.

Looking very relaxed and sporting a brown curdoroy jacket during the interview, Antiporda explains that MHC provides budding business people the capital and managerial resources, such as know-how in financial planning and administration, to make their dreams come true.

Last month for instance, MHC launched Pacific Wharf. Located at the top floor of Rockwell Power Plant Mall in Makati. The restaurant offers fresh seafood, ribs and pasta. It was designed to have the look and feel of a casual, fun-filled walk along Fisherman Wharf in Antiporda's favorite city in the world, San Francisco.

The investment company also began commercial operations of the first branch of an upscale chain of barbershops—Signature Cuts—in July last year.

Antiporda says he finds it more exciting to launch new enterprises compared to banking, which was his life for over 20 years.

"Banking tends to be more structured which is not the case in putting up new companies," Antiporda adds.

MHC, he says, is selective in choosing the kind of enterprise it will support. Ideally, the proposed venture should be in a growing market and has the potential for expansion and. duplication.

"We're interested in businesses that do not sell to government but sell to the general public," he explains.

The company takes a majority stake in the business but gives stock options to the entrepreneurs.

Its first project, the barbershop chain, was the brainchild of Tonton de Mesa, the basketball buddy of Antiporda's son, Adrian.

Antiporda, who hates going to a barbershop, was initially skeptical but he changed his mind when he saw the operations of a popular and profitable barbershop chain during a trip to the US.

To differentiate the chain from other local barbershops, Signature Cuts installed cubicles to provide customers privacy. It also put up a separate lounge area complete with cable television and a coffee shop so that waiting customers do not see the mess made in the barbershop.

Antiporda says MHC looks at how the proposed venture can stand

EXEC/ B2

DESIGNER Nono Palmos says female executives should invest in black, navy and beige suits.

Building a lady exec's wardrobe

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

SO you just got promoted and tomorrow's your first day as the new boss. A lunch is being tendered in your honor to be attended by the top guys in your firm. The night before, you open your closet to choose the clothes you will wear. You have accumulated a pile on your bed yet nothing seems appropriate.

Finding the right clothes to wear is always a problem for female executives. No matter how many clothes you have, you always feel you don't have the right ones.

SundayBiz, thus, asked designer Nono Palmos, who has been dressing up female executives for over a decade, how to build a wardrobe for those power lunches and endless cocktail parties.

"You should have black, gray, navy and beige suits. You will need about 10 inner blouses of varied colors—plain, bright red, fuschia . . . ," Palmos says.

He says many of his clients are "big" yet he says they are satisfied at the looks he creates for them.

The key he says is in the mea-

BUILDING/ B2

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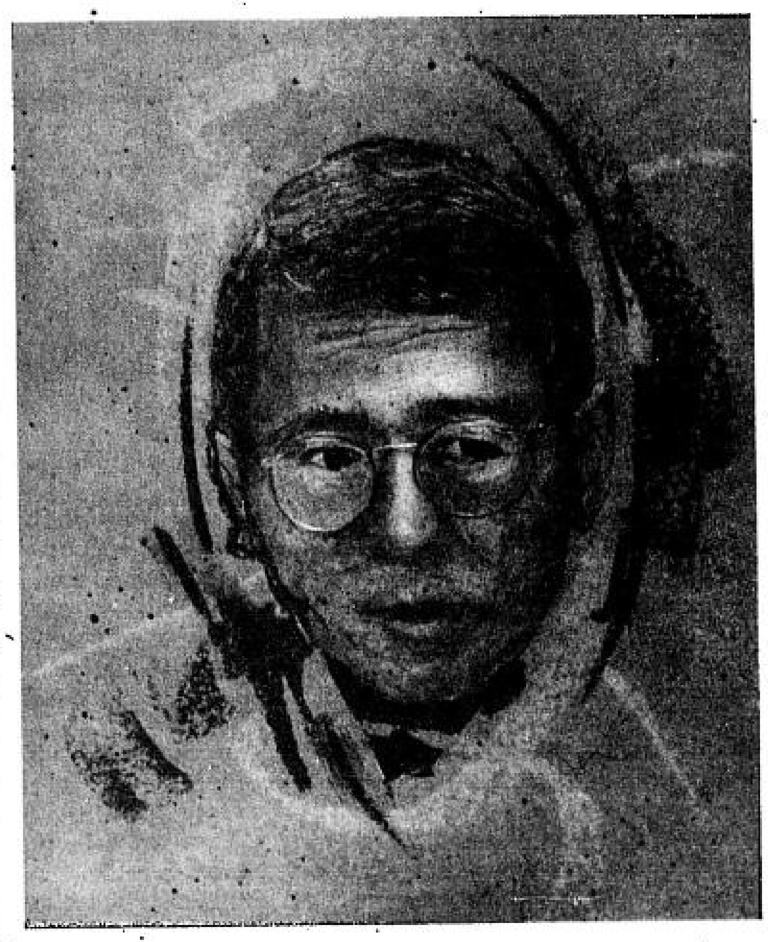
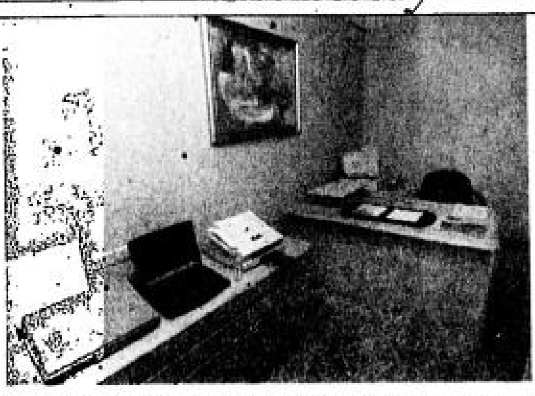
IN YOUR FACE BY L. P. LEVISTE



DID he help the prosecution with its case against President Estrada or did he weaken it following his testimony at the impeachment trial?'

The verdict is still out on whether Perfecto R. Yasay Jr., former chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission, was telling the truth on the alleged pressure made by the President to clear the President's friend Dante Tan of any insider trading charge involving gambling firm BW Resources Corp.'



PAN PACIFIC has standard facilities required by business travelers such as a business center. It also offers conference rooms, private meeting rooms and a ballroom.

ASIDE from the business facilities, many of the guests like the fact that the bedroom opens up to the bathroom.

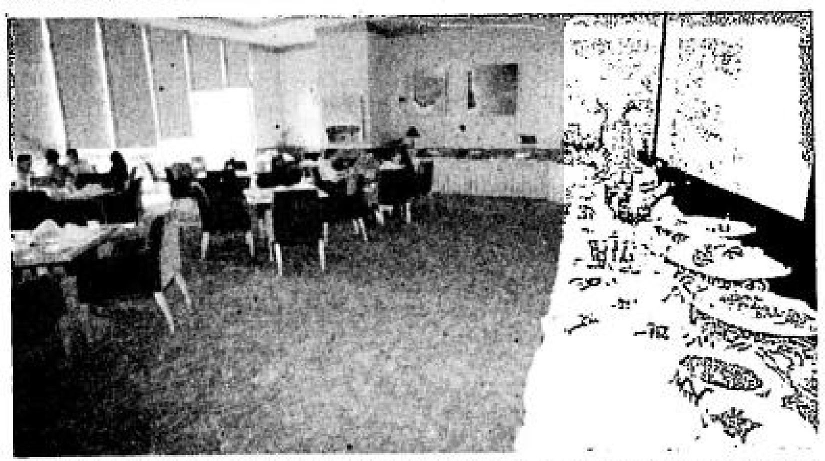
GUESTS can stay for hours at the bathroom which has a television set.

PHOTOS BY ERIK ARAZAS

It was the butler that brought guests to Manila deluxe hotel

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

PAN PACIFIC boasts of having all executive rooms with a granite desk, computer, printer, scanner as well as coffee and tea making facilities. Most rooms also have the latest in audio-video equipment.



GUESTS staying in most of the rooms enjoy complimentary buffet breakfast and pre-dinner cocktails at the Pacific Lounge that offers guests a nice view of Manila Bay.

BUSINESS hotels in Metro Manila have at least one distinguishing feature to attract travelers and executives. Some pride themselves on being the most private or exclusive, others offer bigger rooms or full service kitchens while still others offer the latest in audio-visual and business equipment.

The Pan Pacific Manila hotel in the heart of the popular Malate area says one of its main features that sets it apart from the rest is its personalized full butler service. This means that all guests have their own butler to look after the guests' requirements from unpacking their clothes, ironing their shirts or some secretarial work.

The butlers can also be asked to assist with business appointments, make travel arrangements and give advice on the best local restaurants and places of interest and entertainment.

Pan Pacific marketing head Jane L. Natividad tells the INQUIRER that many of the butlers were trained abroad to make sure that the service they provide is at par with the level of service in more developed countries such as the United Kingdom.

Natividad adds that the butler service is part of the strategy to package the 236-room Pan Pacific as a primary destination for executives. She says all the rooms are considered executive level with amenities such as a granite desk, personal computer, facsimile machine, printer and coffee/tea making facilities.

She, however, says that many guests far prefer the bathroom facilities. Many guests have been known to come back if only for the chance to use the bathroom.

Pan Pacific's bathrooms have a separate bathtub and shower cubicle. The rooms also have a television set and sliding wall that opens the bathroom to the bedroom.

Other hotel facilities include a rooftop garden; nine function rooms, executive business center, health and fitness center, swimming pool and jacuzzi, billiard tables. A popular destination is the Pacific Lounge at the top floor where guests take their complimentary breakfast and afternoon cocktails while watching the sunset over Manila Bay.

"We cater primarily to business travelers who do business in this area. One of our biggest clients is the American Embassy and the attached agencies that are also located in Manila," Natividad says.

The standard executive room runs up to $190 for an overnight stay, while the executive deluxe room costs $230 million. The cheapest suite—Pacific Suite—goes for $280 a night while the executive suite goes up to $400 a night.

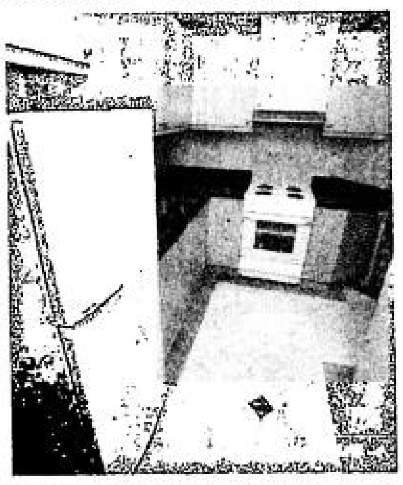
Guests, on the other hand, can stay at the Presidential Suite with its own living and dining areas and three bedrooms for $1,250 a night.

These rates include buffet breakfast, pre-dinner cocktails and complimentary laundry service for two items a day.

Pan Pacific is also close to the Japanese Embassy, World Trade Center and the Philippine International Convention Center, making it a natural destination for business travelers attending conventions and exhibitions sponsored by the Center for International Trade Exhibitions and Missions.

Asian businessmen, primarily the Japanese, are also among the biggest clients although an increasing number of local residents have been using the facilities to take advantage of the lower hotel rates in these depressed times.

"We are quite fortunate because Pan Pacific is the only deluxe hotel in this area," Natividad says.



THE HOTEL'S suites have kitchenettes for guests who want to cook their own food.

SOME of Palmos' many looks for corporate executives. The models shown are actual female executives.

Building a lady exec's wardrobe

(From page B1)

surement. He takes very meticulous measurements of a client that practically take in almost every inch of her body.

"I am proud of the quality of my fit," he says, saying he has never run out of clients.

In 1997, he launched a fashion show where he used real corporate working women as models.

This month he is launching a show mixing the corporate look with more flamboyant designs.

Palmos comes from Iloilo. His grandmother and mother were dressmakers.

"At seven years old I was already sewing beads," he says. He took up dressmaking in high school and was the only male in a class of 100 girls. But he topped his group.

At 16 he wanted to study fine arts but was not allowed to go to Manila at an early age so he studied nautical engineering.

A few years later he was in Manila and worked as an apprentice in the design house of Rudy Fuentes. One of the designers took him in as a protégé and guided him on design.

It did not take him long, however, to decide to strike out on his own. He put up his own shop and started doing corporate uniforms. He says he won many contracts because he decided to use heavy women instead of tall and lean models.

He shifted to dressing up individual clients when he felt that focusing on uniforms stifled his creativity.

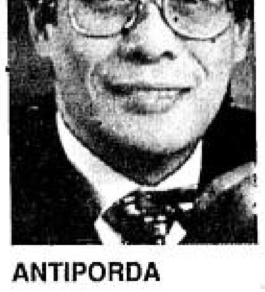
His suits cost P7,500 to P8,500 a set. He admits the price is quite stiff but says that clients get a quality suit in exchange for investment. He adds that his costs are still much lower than imported suits which run up to as much as P30,000 each.

"When my clients saw the prices of imported suits they thought I was cheap," he says.

His clients include middle managers to top executives.

Exec trades . . .

(From page B1)



ANTIPORDA

out amid the competition and how it can provide extra value to the customers.'

De Mesa, who manages the New Manila barbershop, is working on the establishment of the second branch in Makati.

Pacific Wharf, on the other hand, was born from the desire of Antiporda's business partner to put up a restaurant.

"The ideas underlying the Pacific Wharf Restaurant are very simple and straightforward. Harbors have always been associated with good food. Fishermen's fresh catch and fresh produce from nearby farms and excellent meat from surrounding ranches find their way to the harbor. It is therefore not surprising that some of the best restaurants worldwide are found in historic harbors," Antiporda relates.

MHC is optimistic that it will be able to recover the investment in the restaurant within the next three years.

Antiporda says restaurant sales go up to about P120,000 a day. Encouraged by these figures, MHC plans to open a second restaurant by the middle of the year.

BANKERS ALL. (From left) Peter Favila, Allied Banking Corp.; Chito Manhit, Wilfrido Co, Allied Bank; and Security Bank Corp. president Rafael Simpao.

BANKERS joked that the affair turned out to be something of a reception for the new Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Buenaventura.

PHOTOS BY JOHNNY VILLENA

BSP hosts subdued but well-attended cocktails

HOSTS Governor Rafael Buenaventura and new wife Marivic Rufino welcomed guests to the BSP's key social affair for the year.

FORMER CB Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr. took time off his schedule to be with former colleagues at the BSP.

BUENAVENTURA shares a light moment with Justice Artemio Panganiban.

BUENAVENTURA with BAP president Dr. Placido L. Mapa Jr.

FOR the past three decades, bank presidents of all shapes and sizes troop to Fort San Antonio Abad every first Friday of the year to attend the traditional bankers cocktails sponsored by their regulator, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

Not even the gloomy disposition of the business community due to the unresolved political crisis got in the way of tradition, thus, the BSP's event of the year held last Jan. 5 remained well-attended albeit a little bit more subdued.

Only the bank officials of controversial Equitable PCI Bank were notable absentees in the formal affair.

Also noticeably absent was Sean Nolan, resident representative of the International Monetary Fund, whose client—the Philippine government—failed the Fund's program last year.

The mood, except perhaps for that of newlywed host BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura, was definitely not as festive as that of previous gatherings.

Buenaventura proudly showed off his new wife Marivic Rufino, covered in gold from top to toe. Bankers and reporters joked that the party seemed more like a reception for the new couple.

(Erratum: Marivic Rufino was previously married to Eric Lim and not to a member of the Jacinto family as earlier reported here. She is also just in her 40s and not fiftysomething.)

The mood was very much in contrast to the bankers' night last year that was full of promise of a new beginning for the Estrada administration. President Estrada has just appointed Jose T. Pardo as the new finance chief at the time to replace Edgardo Espiritu who had resigned in Jan. 5.

As bankers talked about Espiritu's resignation last year, they also welcomed the entry of Pardo as they felt his appointment would make for a more harmonious relationship between DOF and BSP.

Last year, bankers talked vividly about the possibility of more mergers and consolidations, of better profits, reduced bad loans, and possibility of an Asian expansion for the bigger ones.

This year, they deliberately skirted the issue of the impeachment trial since it was a government-sponsored event. Even reporters were not actively prowling the Fort Abad gardens to hunt for an exciting source.

The moment they knew Equitable PCI Bank was absent, they agreed to stop working and attempted to enjoy the cocktails.

It was a night when everyone just went through the motions until they felt their feet hurting. They then made their way to the governor and the missus, thank them for a wonderful reception, and proceeded to Malate or Makati for a more exciting nightcap.

Clarissa S. Batino

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CROP MANAGERS (CM)

Our Crop Managers develop and lead the implementation of the local marketing strategy for assigned crops and products.

Between 35- 45 years old, they possess at least three years of relevant working experience in a supervisory or managerial sales/marketing position from a prestigious company.

Creative, and a critical thinker, they come up with innovations, and ensures that marketing strategies are cost efficient, effective and aligned with the region's crop marketing strategy.

With their strong leadership, extensive technical background and knowledge of the Philippine Agricultural market, they strive to meet growers' existing and future needs, and delivers long-term profitability.

Their positive "win-win" attitude equips them in dealing with both associates and stakeholders in a fair and compassionate manner.

DEPARTMENT SECRETARY - MARKETING (SCMKT)

The department secretary provides administrative support to the head of marketing and his team.

Equipped with excellent communication skills; she is able to effectively relay information and coordinate with her teammates and other departments as to their ad and promo material needs.

She is a mature worker between 27-35 years of age, and possesses commendable 3-5 years of relevant working experience and is proficient in Windows applications in handling similar functions. A systematic worker, she is tasked to maintain the filing system of pertinent documents such as product profiles, and other marketing references.

A non-conventional worker, she looks at things in a positive perspective. She welcomes changes in her work environment, enhances her craft and seeks for continuous improvement in the way she delivers her tasks.

SALES REPRESENTATIVES - TRADITIONAL BUSINESS (SR-TRD)

The position entails the qualified Sales Reps to achieve the business targets, and manage the quality of and relationship with chosen distribution channels in his assigned sales territory.

Our Sales Representatives are college degree holders of agriculture, business or other related courses, males or females between 21 to 30 years of age. They are willing to relocate and assume responsibility of handling an assigned territory (anywhere in Luzon, Visayas, or Mindanao).

Able to quickly grasp concepts, ideas, and information, they are expected to easily comprehend and have better grips of the market in their assigned area.

They are innovators, customer oriented, and team players. They maintain strong partnership with the marketing team in establishing annual sales and market share targets and in identifying new business opportunities.

Having a strong sense of responsibility, they take full accountability for the management of company assets assigned to them.

Our Sales Reps explore all possibilities in attaining their goals and exceeding their targets. They are highly receptive to change and take it as an opportunity to further develop the business in their area and enhance their crafts as well.

FIELD MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES (FMR)

They support the achievement of business targets in their assigned territories by planning and implementing demand creation activities in accordance with crop and product strategies developed by Crop Managers. They are willing to assume the responsibility of handling an area, and relocate anywhere in Luzon, Visayas or Mindanao,

Our Field Marketing Reps are strong team players and organizers. They maintain close ties with their counterpart Sales Representatives, so as to closely monitor developments in the programs implemented and its contribution in achieving sales targets.

Our Field Marketing Representatives are males, between 21 to 30 years of age. Graduates of agriculture, business or any related course, is a definite advantage especially in conducting highly technical activities such as meetings, seminars or training for farmers.

Creative and innovative, they continuously think of variations and new programs/activities to implement so as to increase the demand of the products in their respective areas.

Possesses a positive outlook and strongly motivated and driven, they have the tenacity to execute marketing strategies. Our Field Marketing Reps. are people-person individuals and have strong sense of customer focus. They easily relate with their clientele, they uphold the "customer first" mentality in all their dealings.

Competitive compensation and benefits package and career development opportunities await successful candidates. Interested parties may send their credentials with application letter indicating the position code not later than 20 January 2001 at:

Novartis Agro Phils. Inc.
Human Resources Department
(Position Code)
10/F Salcedo Towers
169 H.V. dela Costa St. Salcedo Village, Makati City
e-mail: team.hr@phmccp01p.syngenta.com

For Visayas and Mindanao applicants, you may send your applications to:

Novartis Agro Iloilo Warehouse
Door #2, HVG Warehouse
Rizal St. Lapus La Paz,
Iloilo City

Novartis Agro Davao Warehouse
Km. 11, Sasá,
Davao City

EAST-WEST SEED COMPANY, INC.

East-West Seed Company is the pioneer vegetable seed company in the Philippines. We are the nation's leading supplier of quality vegetable seeds developed for and well adapted to Philippine farming conditions.

The Company's head office and seed processing plant is based in San Rafael, Bulacan, with two research farms located at San Ildefonso, Bulacan, and Lipa City. We produce seeds in various areas throughout the country. The company's regular manpower complement currently totals 193.

The company is a multinational and has affiliate companies in Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. The mission of the East-West Group is to improve the livelihood of Asia's small vegetable farmers by continuously providing higher yielding and more profitable crop varieties.

In line with the company's expansion program, we would like to invite highly-competent, hardworking and results-oriented individuals to be part of our dynamic team as:

QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER

(to be based in San Rafael, Bulacan)

The Job:

- With his/her knowledge in Agriculture and Plant Breeding, this manager will implement and enforce measures to ensure high quality hybrid seed production and parental replication
- Coordination of field checks/visits and post-harvest tests
- Supervise and lead activities of the QA personnel
- Closely coordinate with Plant, Seed Production and R & D Departments
- Effectively deal with complaints
- Develop and expand seed technology and pathology activities

Our Requirements:

- Graduate of BSc Agriculture, major in Plant Breeding
- Courses/workshop and experience on quality/ISO management are considered an advantage
- Or BSc Agribusiness with courses on quality management and strong additional experience in crop cultivation
- Experience in management of an agriculture-related job
- Strong interest in hybrid seed production
- With clear vision on quality management
- Possesses good planning and evaluation skills
- Computer literate particularly in MS Access, Excel, Word
- Enthusiastic team player, yet independent
- Patient yet strong-willed

The Offer:

For the successful candidate, the company offers a very competitive compensation package. Salary will be based on qualification and experience.

INFORMATION SERVICE OFFICER

(to be based in San Rafael, Bulacan)

This position has been created to facilitate development of an intranet and related applications that will serve to integrate Philippine operations and eventually all operations within the East-West Group.

The Job:

- Network system administration
  - Ongoing assessment of network performance and long term goals
  - Security planning, implementation, monitoring
- Web master
  - Central point of contact for intranet questions and staff education
  - Data base administration
- Systems analysis and software design
- Applications programming

Our Requirements:

- a BS degree in Computer Science, Computer Management, or any course related to Management Information Systems
- a Master's degree or some masters units (would be an advantage)
- 3 to 5 years experience
- Fluent in English and Filipino
- a fast learner
- Flexible, has initiative and a positive work attitude
- a team player
- Good people skills

The Officer:

Salary is negotiable and will be based on qualifications and experience. We offer competitive compensation and benefits packages.

If you want to be challenged and to work with a dynamic team, you may send your application letter, resumé, transcript of records and latest 1"x1" photo immediately to:

The HR Department, P.O. Box 2384, MCPO 1263, Makati City or via e-mail: ewhrd@fastmail.I-next.net

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FREE U.S. IMMIGRATION SEMINAR FOR NURSES

International Nurses Alliance (INA) has been placing international nurses continuously in the U.S. for 13 years now. If you would like to learn more about working in the U.S. and want the simple truth about immigration, work and licensing without all the high pressure sales pitch and gimmicks, then come and attend our ***FREE SEMINARS*** on how to get a green card / immigrant visa employment based and join our INA team of nurses.

January 27 (Saturday) 12:00 NN -3:00 PM	**Bacolod City – L'Fischer Hotel** Tel. No. 433-3731
January 29 (Monday) 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	**San Fernando, La Union - Oasis Country Resort** Tel. No. 242-5621
January 30 (Tuesday) 1:00 - 3:00 PM & 6:00 - 9:00 PM	**Baguio City – Prince Plaza Hotel** Tel. No. 442-5082
February 1 (Thursday) 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	**Cebu City – Cebu Plaza Hotel** Tel. No. 231-1231
February 2 (Friday) 9:00 AM -12:00 NN	**Cebu City – Cebu Plaza Hotel**
February 6 (Tuesday) 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	**Manila – Heritage Hotel**
February 7 (Wednesday) 9:00 AM - 12:00 NN	**Manila – Heritage Hotel**

International
Nurses
Alliance
8 Brittany Lane
Harpswell, Maine 04079 USA
Tel. (207) 729-5895
Fax (207) 729-8291
E-mail: ina@gwi.net
www.internationalnurses.com

Our goal is to reach greater heights...
...to be more successful...to be number one.
Be part of the challenge meant only for winners.

Consider joining **Colgate-Palmolive** as:

ACCOUNT MANAGER

You are headed for success! We offer ongoing training and developmental assignments to ensure that you acquire the skills and experience necessary to reach your career and personal goals. Plus, a competitive salary, and leading-edge benefits you expect from a market leader.

Join us especially if you have at least two years experience in selling fast- moving consumer products. You must be a team player, driven and motivated to keep Colgate-Palmolive in the industry forefront, and willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines. You will be working in a fast-paced environment, constantly challenged to meet consumer demands swiftly, efficiently, and cost-effectively. Your attributes of initiative, leadership, and tenacity are greatly desired to be able to hit company goals. Your skills in implementation will be tapped early on as well. Being highly visible, your excellent communication skills will help you in your interaction with business partners and with people across all functions.

We will open the door to a truly global opportunity for you Send resume, transcript of records, and latest 2x2 picture **not later than** January 22, 2001 to.

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE PHILIPPINES, INC.
1049 J. P. Rizal Avenue, Makati City
Attention: HR Officer
e-mail address: cppi_hrd@colpal.com
(We will respond to qualified individuals only)

The **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS** (www.redcross.org.ph) with the **INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS and RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES** (www.ifrc.org)

is inviting applicants for the position of:

REGIONAL HEALTH / WATER SANITATION OFFICER

The International Federation of Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies seeks an experienced Water Sanitation / Health expert for the post of Regional Health Officer with the Regional Health Unit SE and East Asia.

The person
We are looking for a 28-40 year old public health expert with specialisation in community based Water & Sanitation related programs with minimum 3-5 years of experience in general health / water sanitation assessment, participatory program planning, program management preferably with a MPH or MSc degree. Working experiences in a disaster context are an advantage. The person has to be fluent in English. International experience and additional Asian language skills definitely an asset. The candidate should be a good team worker, willing and able to travel regionally at short notice and work long hours under difficult circumstances. He/she needs to be well versed in Internet, database use and common computer software, knowledgeable about the critical health issues in the region, and a comprehensive understanding of health related development and disaster issues with regard to Water and Sanitation.

The work
The Regional Health Unit SE and East Asia supports/assists National Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies in capacity building, networking and advocacy in relevant health programs and provides technical assistance in the implementation of these programs for the purpose of assisting vulnerable communities. The officer will be part of the regional health team of three health officers headed by the Health Delegate. The position focuses on Water Sanitation with emphasis on community based approaches (activities include assessments in development and disaster situations, participatory program planning, identification of capacity needs) and a public health part (health program management health information systems, country focuses support as well as planning and conducting workshops and other capacity building programmes).

The position is initially for one year and renewable on yearly basis.

Please send applications in English including salary expectations and CVs and contact by e-mail only to

Dr. Stefan Seebacher MPH
Regional Health Delegate
E-mail (confidential): ifrc09@ifrcbkk.org.

Closing date 18 January 2001
Only shortlisted candidates will be notified and interviews will be held on 24/01 in Manila

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San Benildo Integrated School

Marcos Highway, Cainta, Rizal
Telefax: 678-7438; Tel.: 681-1718

is in need of the following for School Year 2001-2002.

1. **grade school and high school teachers in all subject areas**
2. **guidance counsellor and**
3. **high school librarian**

Hiring rate is P10,000/month

Applicants may contact the Principal:
Dr. Cellie S.L. Santos

A DYNAMIC COMPANY NEEDS:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
(TO THE PRESIDENT & CEO)

- female, between 24 to 32 yrs. of age
- graduate of a reputable school
- with an excellent command of written and spoken English
- must be proficient in writing (business letters, write-ups, reports, etc.)

Please send or fax your resume at:
PLPDC
16th Floor, Summit One Office Tower
530 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel: 534-1026 • Fax: 534-2783
Attn: The PRESIDENT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTING TASK FORCE

BULLETIN OF VACANT REGULAR POSITIONS
(In compliance with RA 7041)

(1) Driver I - SG-3; Item No. OSEC-DECSB-DRV1-29-1998. At least High School Graduate; with relevant experience and a Driver's License

Qualified applicants must send their resumé, transcript of records, recent ID picture and other credentials to:

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER
DECS-EDPITAF
Dorm D, DECS Complex
Meralco Avenue, Pasig City

Previous applicants need not apply.
Deadline for submission of application is on January 22, 2001

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

Required for International firm, excellent rates of pay + bonuses, Marketing degree and fluent in English a must. Flexible hours.

If you possess the above qualifications. Answering this Ad could change the course of your life.

Please fax resumé to 636-8397
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INTERVIEW AT:
Hotel Intercontinental
Makati City on JANUARY 13, 14 & 15, 2001
at 8:00 AM up to 5:00 PM

SEND YOUR RESUMÉ TO:
Med-Employ
U.S.A. and International Medical Recruitment
MR. JERRY N. DIZON
#756 Velasquez Avenue, San Francisco
Mabalacat, Pampanga, 2010
or call Tel. Nos. (045) 331-7611 Telefax: (045) 331-6150
Cellular No. 0919-647-5893
jerlin@datelnet.net

CGFNS & U.S. LICENSED NURSES

Do you want to avail of an **Immigrant Visa Petition for Free?**
WE DARE YOU...
COME & COMPARE
On

WHEN:	March 1 and 2, 2001 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	March 04, 2001 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
WHERE:	Century Park Hotel 1004 Malate Manila	Cebu Midtown Hotel Osmeña St. Cebu

The **Directors** of **ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM** (Morristown Memorial Hospital in Morristown, Overlook Hospital in Summit, Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, and the General Hospital Center at Passaic in Passaic) New Jersey, U.S.A. will hire Nurses in all Specialty areas

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Yourself a Joker When you can Have an Ace

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- Free Airfare (Manila to U.S.A.)

A ♦ BETTER Benefits Package
- Paid Vacation/ Sick Leave
- Paid Insurance

A ♥ the BEST
- Competitive Salaries
- Excellent Benefits and Incentives
- Outstanding Working Condition
- Continuing Education

** Ms. Amelia J. Olegario from New Jersey will be on hand to assist the Hospital Directors*

Please bring:
Typewritten Resumé and Original documents (CGFNS Certificate, Toefl, TSE, ICHP, College Diploma, High School Diploma, Birth Certificate, Marriage Contract if married, Transcript of Records, Related Learning Experience, PRC Certificate, Board Rating, PRC ID and employment Certificate with area of exposure.)

For more information: Please contact **Ms. Elsie T. dela Cura of EA Int'l. Placement** Rm. 203-204 Aurora Plaza Bldg., J. Bocobo cor. Arquiza Sts., Ermita, Manila, Telephone 5266431 or 5264642, 5258756.

Or EA Branch Office in Bacolod City Tel. 034 4338971 or 034 4343009

IMMEDIATE HIRING
4 COMPANY LOCATED IN
CUPANG, MUNTI
ACCOUNTING CLERKS
BOOKKEEPERS Female
preferably with 1 year experience, (new graduates or college undergraduates of Accounting or any Commerce major courses are also welcome), female. Please call during office hours at 8071819, 8071709

A SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTER IN CAVITE IS IN NEED OF TEACHERS PREFERABLY SPED OR BS PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATES.

Come for interview with resumé
M-F 8-12

Call **046-8501767** or **801-3586**
for appointment

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY SPECIALISTS

Work Description:
- To develop English language proficiency tests covering reading/listening comprehension, grammar and structure.

Qualifications:
- Advanced degree in English studies, English education, or writing-related fields.
- Preferably with experience in English proficiency test construction, or professional writing or editing.
- Basic word processing and Internet skills.
- We need people who are highly responsible, aggressive, and organized. New graduates are welcome to apply.

**Compensation is negotiable depending on qualifications.*

Email application letter and resume to edtutor@i-manila.com.ph on or before Jan. 20.

WANTED

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

for Industrial Chemical Company
-URGENTLY NEEDED-

- 25 to 35 years old
- Male or Female
- With experience in the field of Sales.
- Can speak Chinese is an advantage.

If interested please call
Tel. Nos. **532-23-17, 532-20-26-27**
Look for **Dax** or **Ethel**

SECRETARY

Required for **International Firm**, must be good in English both in oral & written communication skills and have excellent telephone manners and computer skills.

Salary depending on experience
Please fax resumé to **636-8397**
Code: SEC2001

EAST-WEST SEED COMPANY, INC.

We are the nation's leading supplier of quality vegetable seeds. A dynamic company, we are engaged in the marketing, production and development of improved vegetable varieties.

To strengthen our team, we are inviting qualified candidates to fill-in the following job positions:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

(to be based in San Rafael, Bulacan)

- a BS or A.B. degree holder preferably with masteral units/degree
- With 5 or more years experience as Executive Assistant or related job
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Proficient in computer (MS Excel, Word, Powerpoint)
- Good record keeping/filing/organizational skills
- Pleasing personality, flexible and teamplayer

CROP PROTECTION & SOIL FERTILIZATION SPECIALISTS

(for Northern Luzon)

- BSc in Agriculture major in Plant Pathology, Entomology, Crop Protection or BSc in Agriculture major in Horticulture with relevant experience in the same field (for Crop Protection Specialist)
- BSc in Agriculture major in Soil Science (for Soil Fertilization Specialist)
- Has knowledge of Plant-Soil Relations (for Soil Fertilization Specialist)
- With 5 years experience in an agriculture/horticulture related job
- Willing to travel from time to time
- Enthusiastic and able to work independently
- Can communicate from a farmer level
- With interest in seed production

QUALITY ASSURANCE ASSISTANT

(for Northern Luzon)

- BSc in Agriculture major in Horticulture or Plant Breeding
- Preferably with 1 or 2 years experience in crop cultivation
- Willing to travel regularly
- Analytical and enthusiastic
- With interest in seed production

SEED PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

(for Mindanao)

- BSc in Agriculture major in Horticulture, Plant Breeding, Agronomy
- With strong interest in crop and seed production
- With 2 or 3 years work experience in crpp cultivation or related job
- Can communicate from a farmer level
- Possesses trainor skills
- Must be flexible and resourceful

TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE

(for Region I and Region XI & XII)

- Male, 21 to 25 years old
- Graduate of BS Agriculture (major in Horticulture), preferably with at least one (1) year experience in seed or field promotions
- Possesses good verbal communication skills, fluent in dialect in said areas an advantage
- Can work independently
- Adaptable and flexible
- Willing to undergo training and do field work

RESEARCHER - ELECTROPHORESIS

(to be based in San Ildefonso, Bulacan)

- BSc/MSc in Biology or any related field
- With at least 2 years experience in electrophoresis work
- Experience in / knowledge of DNA marker technologies
- Willing to pioneer and with interest in agriculture
- Knowledge of / experience in plant breeding
- Ability to work independently yet a good team player

FOREMAN FOR RESEARCH FARM

(to be based in San Ildefonso, Bulacan)

- Preferably Male, 30 to 37 years old
- BS Agriculture graduate major in Agronomy and/or a related field
- Preferably with experience/background in vegetable production
- Has experience in handling farm workers
- Preferably computer literate

If you want to be challenged and to work with a dynamic team, you may send your application letter, resumé, transcript of records & latest 1"x1" photo immediately to:

The HR Department
P.O. Box 2384, MCPO 1263,
Makati City
or via e-mail: ewhrd@fastmail.I-next.net

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In the Inquirer, IT-led Innovations give us our competitive edge.

We invite IT experts who wants to play a strategic role in the organization.

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SYSTEM ANALYST/ PROGRAMMER

(Job Code: SA/Prog)

If you are:

- ☐ Computer Science graduate
- ☐ With at least 1 year related experience
- ☐ Knowledge on Visual Basic, Power Builder and SQL Database
- ☐ Knowledge on Software Crystal Report

Send your application letter, comprehensive resumé (with contact telephone number) and one 2x2 ID photo on or before **January 19, 2001** (Friday) to:

HR MANAGEMENT
SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

A PROGRESSIVE COSMETIC COMPANY
IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONNEL:

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

- Female/Male, not more than 26 years old
- College graduate
- With or without experience
- Articulate, hardworking and honest

SECRETARY

- Female, at least 21 to 25 years old
- College graduate
- Preferably with experience and computer literate

PLEASE SEND YOUR APPLICATION LETTER AND RESUMÉ WITH RECENT PHOTO TO:

SHADY PHARMACEIEA
122 STO. DOMINGO ST.
BRGY. SIENA, QUEZON CITY
Tel. 7124013

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Elliptical Road, Quezon City

DAR-Asian Development Bank
AGRARIAN REFORM COMMUNITIES PROJECT

DAR-ADB ARCP

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The DAR-ADB ARCP is a national-level Agrarian Reform Communities (ARC) project addressing rural poverty implemented by the Department of Agrarian Reform supported by the Asian Development Bank. The Central Project Management Office (CPMO) to be located at the Ground Floor, FAPsO Building, DAR Central Office is pleased to announce the following vacancy:

TRAINING SPECIALIST

The Training Specialist will facilitate implementation of appropriate capability building/training interventions that focus on enhancing current competencies of major project implementing agents as well as agrarian reform beneficiaries organizations (ARBOs). S/he shall be based at the Community Development Unit of the CPMO and shall maintain coordination with other ARCP Specialists.

The position is open to Trainers/Educators with at least 5 years experience in popular education, relevant experience in organizational development processes and willing to spend at least 30% of her/his time in the ARCs.

Functions include validation of training needs of ARBOs, ARBs, local DAR and LGU staff, set guidelines and standards for training designs conducted/supported by the Project, develop system for monitoring and evaluation of the Project's training activities, assist CPMO and APO units in the appropriate methodologies and pedagogy of training designs and coordinate modularization of technologies/approaches developed by the Project.

All applications should be addressed to:

ANTOINETTE RAQUIZA
Assistant Secretary for Support Services and Head, National Selection Committee
Department of Agrarian Reform
Elliptical Road, Quezon City

Attention: HERMAN Z. ONGKIKO
DAR-ADB ARCP
Central Project
Management Office
2/F, Castro Bldg., 58 Timog Avenue
Brgy. Laging Handa, Quezon City

Application Requirements: (5 copies each)

a. Application Letter
b. Curriculum Vitae
c. Transcript of Records
d. Personal Data Sheet with latest 2x2 photo

Terms of Reference may be obtained at the present Central Project Management Office, 2nd Floor, Castro Building, 58 Timog Avenue, Brgy. Laging Handa, Quezon City.

Applications should be received on or before January 19, 2001.

(PDI – Jan. 13 & 14, 2001)

IMMEDIATE HIRING

RESIDENT MANAGER

FOR: FIRST CLASS HOTEL IN BORACAY

Qualification:

- ✓ 27 to 40 years old
- ✓ with pleasing personality and must be good in written and oral communication
- ✓ at least 5 years experience in hotel operation management or preferably has experience as Asst. Manager and/or F&B Manager

Submit your application:

7107 Islands Group Holdings, Corp.
Suite 102, G/F Richbelt Terraces
#19 Annapolis Street, Greenhills
San Juan, Metro Manila

or send your resumé:

BOX CODE: SM #3000 BORACAY
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
5th Floor Building B
SM Megamall Building B
Mandaluyong City

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Call Lourdes at (0917) 792-7598

Visit us or register at **www.GSNinc.com**
(No fee will be collected. We are not a recruitment agency)

Mini Job Fair AT THE Glorietta

The **INQUIRER**'s **JOB MARKET** will hold a **"mini" Job Fair** on **January 24 to 26, 2001**; 1 to 8 p.m. at Level 3, Glorietta III, Ayala Center, Makati City (near Racks). Be part of this recruitment special and be included in our **Resumé Reserve** categorized database.

PLACE A 60 COL. CM. AD (MINIMUM SIZE) IN THE JANUARY 21, 2001 ISSUE OF JOB MARKET TO ENJOY THE FOLLOWING:

- **FREE Job Market Online** placement for five (5) Job categories
- **FREE Job Market** copies for job seekers on the 3-day affair
- **FREE** access to our **Resumé Reserve** databank gathered during the event
- **FREE** posting and exposure to participating companies in our print ads
- Resumés gathered during the event intended to a particular advertiser will be forwarded as an added service to the said company

COME TO OUR MINI JOB FAIR AND GET THE CHANCE TO:

- Input your resumés directly into Resumé Reserve via our computers
- Get free Job Market copies
- Submit application to a particular company (Bring at least 10 to 20 copies of resumés)

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL

Main Office
Direct; 897-2535
Trunk Line: 897-8808
locals 514, 516, 237, 243
main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

Pasay Road Branch:
844-2417 • 843-2771
• 843-2780
makati_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

Cubao Branch:
912-9008 to 10
cubao_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

Kalaw Branch:
528-0213 • 527-3342
intra_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

Megamall Branch:
635-0219 • 637-2008
• 632-0220
sm_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

RESUMÉ RESERVE

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☎912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213,
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☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

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Lord, I offer my life to You,
Everything I've been through,
Use it for Your Glory...

Margarita "TITA" Almario Yan

of Gaithersburg, Maryland and Cebu City

Died in the Grace of our Lord due to cancer
on January 8, 2001 at the age of 63.

Beloved wife of ***Graciano "Sonny" Yan,***
devoted mother of ***Rina, Lisa & Martin Fabregas, Trish and Ingrid.***
Loving grandmother to Ana and Jack.
Shes is also survived by her sisters ***Rosario A. Minana*** *and*
Isabel A. Romero *and brother* ***Vicente, Jr.***

Family and friends request the pious readers to
pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

In keeping with her wishes, she will be cremated in Gaithersburg,
Maryland and her ashes will be buried in the family's plot,
beside her parents, Vicente & Rosario Almario in Cebu Memorial Park.
Interment will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made payable to:
"CAN with GOD Foundation, Inc.," Second Floor IAS Building.
Mango Avenue, Cebu City, Tel. No. (032) 254-8678.
Official Receipts of CAN with GOD shall be issued for these donations.

With our Blessings and deep appreciation for your love
and support, we thank you for everything.

JESUS R. ALBA, SR.

Peacefully died in the grace of our Lord
on January 12, 2001 at the age of 73.

His loving wife **Virginia Reyes**; children **Kathleena** and **Norberto, Jose III** and **Kristine, Jesus, Jr.** (†), **Jeronimo** and **Lillibeth, Jay** and **Jocelyn**; sisters **Lourdes, Cecilia**; brother **Jose** (†); grandchildren **Denise, David, Christopher, Therese, Raphael, Ryan, Celestina** and **Patricia**; and relatives wish that you will join them in their prayers to guide him through his final journey.

His remains lie in state at his residence 2 A. Bonifacio Street, Katipunan, Pasig City.

Interment will be on Monday, January 15, 2001 at Pasig Catholic Cemetery right after the 2:00 PM Mass, to be held at his residence.

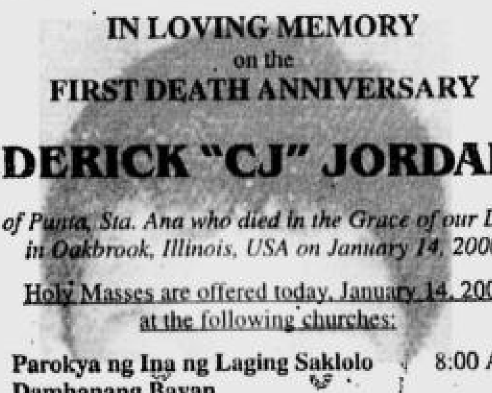
BENJAMIN CASTILLO GUTIERREZ

of Alitagtag, Batangas

Peacefully died in the Grace of our Lord
on January 11, 2001 at the age of 67.

His loving wife **Carmen de Jesus**; children **Eduardo** and **Dieza, Ricardo** and **Lourdes, Ramon, Ma. Lourdes** and **Miguelito Agco**, and **Ma. Teresa**; brother Mario (deceased); brothers and sisters-in-law **Melquiades** and **Remedios, Rene** and **Trinidad, Armando** (deceased) and **Inocencia, Efren** and **Norma, Cesar** and **Cely**; sisters and brothers-in-law **Gloriosa** and **Apion** (both deceased), **Lydia** (deceased) and **Macario**; grandchildren **Sarah Mae, Rachel, Angela** and **Ruth Abigail** and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at St. Jerome Emiliani Parish at Alabang, Muntinlupa City. Cremation at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque and shall follow the 9 a.m. Mass on January 16, 2001.



IN LOVING MEMORY
on the
FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY

RODERICK "CJ" JORDAN CO

of Punta, Sta. Ana who died in the Grace of our Lord
in Oakbrook, Illinois, USA on January 14, 2000.

Holy Masses are offered today, January 14, 2001
at the following churches:

Parokya ng Ina ng Laging Saklolo **Dambanang Bayan** Punta, Sta. Ana	8:00 AM
San Felipe Neri Parish Mandaluyong City	8:00 AM
Sacred Heart Parish Sta. Mesa, Manila	9:00 AM

His parents, **Encarnacion Koo** and **Yao Koo**; brother **Felino**;
and sister **Albina** will deeply appreciate prayers
offered in his name.

"absent with the body to be present with the Lord." 2 Corinthians 5:8

ANSELMO A. GANDIA

of Binakayan, Kawit and Imus, Cavite
Born March 20, 1926

Peacefully joined his Creator on January 10, 2001.

His wife **LYDIA SARAO**; children **ARMILYN "BABY" & AGERICO AUSTRIA** and **SHIRLEY & HERMINIO ESGUERRA JR.**; grandchildren **ANGELI ALEXI & ALLAN ALDRICH AUSTRIA** and **JAYSON MARTIN ESGUERRA**; brother **CAPT. ADOLFO GANDIA PN (RET) & DR. FILMA AGUILAR**; sister **GLORIA AGUILUCHO**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at #235 Angel Village, Medicion II, Imus, Cavite.

Interment will be on Tuesday, January 16, 2001 at Binakayan Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at Nuestra Sra. del Pilar Church at Toclong Imus, Cavite.

CORONA GALCERAN FABELA

Died peacefully at the age of 76
on December 26, 2000 in Anchorage Alaska USA

Her loving husband Col. JOVITO ED. FABELA (ret.); children Myrna and Edgar VENTURINA, Vangie and Ernie GANUELAS, Loy and Onie MONTELLANO, Danny and Lou FABELA, Tata and Reggie ATIENZA, Titit and Rodel LEAÑO, Anna and Bong SIPIN, Rorot and Bobby MARQUEZ, Boyet and Jeanna FABELA, Jovie and Joy FABELA; her grandchildren, her sisters, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Loyola Memorial Park, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, January 16, 2001 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Parañaque City after the celebration of the Holy Mass at 8:00 AM.

RENATO G. YUMUL

of Concepcion, Tarlac and Tuskaloosa, Alabama, U.S.A.
joined the company of his Creator
on January 11, 2001

His loving mother Mrs. Leticia "Apung Mading" Gueco Vda. de Yumul, his loving wife Dr. Fe Anastacio his children Arsenio Romeo and wife Ann, Edgar and Mellissa, and his brothers and sisters with their spouses request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state in Tuskaloosa, Alabama, USA

Interment to be announced later.

ENGR. JOSUE D. ALTO

Peacefully joined his Creator
on January 12, 2001 at the age of 49

His bereaved wife Angelina G. Alto, children Joey Andrew, Jo-Ann, Joel Adam & Jesy Angell, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul

His remains lie in state at the Funeraria Nacional, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, Project 4, Quezon City at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2001 and interment will be at 3:00 p.m. at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque

---

We design OBITUARIES for free.

Arch. Emigdio V. de Leon Jr.

Peacefully joined his Creator on January 13, 2001
at the age of 69.

His bereaved wife **Ma. Luisa Aldanese**; son **Leo Martin**; sisters **Dolores, Olympia** and **Ma. Theresita**; brother **Manuel**; brothers-in-law **Conrado de Leon, Tito de Guzman, Bienvenido, Ramon** (†), **Manuel, Jose, Antonio** and **Crisanto Aldanese**; sister-in-law **Kelly Tolentino** and others, together with nephews, nieces, grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.
His remains lie in state at the
Don Bosco Memorial Chapels, Makati City.
Cremation at the Manila Memorial will be on Wednesday,
January 17, 2001. Holy Masses will be offered daily.

Engr. Felix Jose L. Comuyog "Joey"

Peacefully joined his Creator on January 12, 2001
at the age of 29.

His bereaved wife **Almira**; daugther **Jomira Denise**; parents **Felix** and **Mirla**; sisters **Marifela, Minna, Mabel, Trecie** and **Fidesminda**; niece **Ayah Cristina C. Madamba**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to join them in prayer for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body will be flown from Japan and will lie in state at the Garden of Memories, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be announced later.

I am the way, the truth
and the life. No one comes
to the Father except
through Me.
John 14:6

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK PARAÑAQUE

Wish to announce its promo for
FAMILY ESTATES & MEMORIAL COURTS
15% downpayment, 0% interest 1 year to pay
Also available premium lawn lots

Please call **Gilbert** or **Tina**
8103594 8182083 8180785 8125679 8180689

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.
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and bank-to-bank payments

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ❶ Copy of Death Certificate ❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS • DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue Quezon City
Tels. 715-1025, 715-1031, 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST
Raymundo St. cor Mercedes Ave San Miguel, Pasig City
Tels 640 7145 • 640 2975
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue Quezon City
Tel 732-0309 732 1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch A.S. Fortuna Street Banilad Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels 346 2543 346 2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills Lahug Cebu City Tels 231 5721 231 3182
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext cor J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels (082) 227 1201 227-1258
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road Makati City Tel 894 5832 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave cor Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102, 741-5125, 741 5133 • Fax No 711-3004
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St. San Roque Marikina City
Tels 646-1725, 646-1730

FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St. Concepcion Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels 2812983 2813034 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor P. Burgos St. Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
(045) 322 5247 (045) 888 2950
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOQUE
No. 87 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels 671-7909 641-1735
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calzada Bagong, Pateros Metro Manila Tels 642-6181 to 82
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat Parañaque City Tels 825 1265 825 1281
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730, Cell (0917) 5660136, (0917) 5660145
Manila #23 Palo St. Project 2, Quezon City Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave cor T. Mapua, Manila
Tels 711 6031 to 35, 732-4795
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave cor Kaliraya St., Quezon City
Tels 749 3808 to 11
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City Tel (074) 443-3337

LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor Bernardino St. Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel 895-1011 to 19
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway Antipolo Rizal
Tels 645-1855 682-0209, 682 0210
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
284 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels 713-5231 to 35, 714-0867, 714-0868
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr Rolling Hills Chapel 27th Lacson St.,
Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Camerino St., Pasay City Tels 831-1204
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills Mandaluyong City Telefax 724 4139 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village Makati City Tels 852 6228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels 749 3679, 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
298 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels 372 5084 410 9286 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue, 517 A Arnaiz St. Pasay City
Tels 831-3797, 844-7846, 843-1801

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
COORDINATING COUNCIL
FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY FOR GRAPHIC DESIGN, PRINTING, AUDIO-VISUAL, PUBLIC RELATION SERVICES

The Coordinating Council for Private Sector Participation (CCPSP) intends to engage the services of firms involved in

1. graphic design
2. offset printing
3. audio-visual presentation (AVP)
4. public relation

for future marketing and promotional requirements.

Interested companies are invited to submit in a sealed envelope a letter of intent with a company profile detailing scope of services and related experience. Please indicate in the upper-left portion of the envelope the service(s) which your company would be pre-qualified for.

Please submit to the following address:

THE CHAIRPERSON
Pre-qualification, Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC)
Coordinating Council for Private Sector Participation (CCPSP)
6/F, EDPC Building, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Complex
A. Mabini St., Manila

Deadlines for submission:

1. for graphic design & PR firms- not later than January 31, 2001
2. for printers & AVP firms - not later than February 23, 2001

For questions, please contact Director Cristina M. Avila or Ms. Hazelle Flores at 521-4262 or 521-9288.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO A. FLETA
Executive Director

People, Events & Products

REZ GOPEZ-SINDAC, Editor

Rustan's Fresh opens at Rockwell Power Plant

RUSTAN'S Supermarket introduces a unique concept of grocery shopping in the Philippines with the recently opened Rustan's Fresh. Located at the Power Plant Mall at Makati's Rockwell Center, Rustan's Fresh will give you the experience of freshness at its truest sense.

Treat yourself to over 2,000 local and imported fresh produce, over 70 kinds of delicatessen, 50 new varieties of fresh fruits and vegetables, some 40 kinds of cheese and the widest range of poultry and meat. It also offers to clean, cut, fillet and debone fish and other seafood. What's more, 12 kinds of chicken barbecue roasted daily plus an assortment of freshly-baked breads and pastries all await the busy and mobile urbanite.

Customers of Rustan's Fresh may also leave their grocery list to the customer service and come back later to have their groceries delivered or picked up. Meanwhile, they may check the other attractions at the Power Plant, watch movie, shop or stroll in the mall. Furthermore, consumers who have a minimum purchase of P1,000 can have their groceries delivered if they live within five kilometers from the store.

Other Rustan's Fresh attractions include a pet care shop for nearby village residents, the most friendly baby-care section, a billboard where important community announcements can be posted, a section for organically-grown farm produce, as well as for health and beauty products.

Magazine for the home now in the market

DO you feel the need for some change in your home environment? Need some tips on how to redecorate and accessorize your personal space? My Home, the ultimate lifestyle magazine for the modern homeowner will give you all these and more.

The first magazine of its kind in the country, My Home distinctly caters to the discriminating taste of the Filipino as it features picturesque and stylish homes in the Philippine setting today. It also provides numerous home enhancement suggestions to inspire you to redecorate and reorganize for a more rejuvenating lifestyle. My Home will surely bring out the creative expression of your personal style.

Earth+Style Corporation, the lifestyle property developer, partners with Mega Magazine Publishing, Inc. (MMPI) in this endeavor to help make beautiful lifestyle happen to you. Through My Home, Earth+Style intends to uplift the quality of life of the modern Filipino by providing design ideas that would help create an elegant, tranquil and comfortable home environment for the Filipino family.

My Home is the latest addition to MMPI's roster of publications which include Mega, Meg, Forward, Family Reader, Bluprint and Mega Style Annual. My Home is available bimonthly in newsstands, bookstores and specialty shops nationwide.

Sterling
PAPE
SterlingWorks

LOONEY TUNES NOW IN SCENTED CANDLES

SterlingWorks recently launched the Fragrant Lights' Looney Tunes Scented Candles. In various shapes, sizes and scents, these candles come in colorful tin cans featuring the world's favorite Looney gang: Tasmanian Devil, Tweety, Bugs Bunny and Marvin the Martian. Present during the product launching are (from left) Tess Lindain, senior product planner; Philip Tan, AVP marketing; Wilfredo Lavarias, plant manager; Baby dela Fuente, group product manager; and Joey Campollo, ad and PR/editorial supervisor.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date: **January 14, 2001**
Contact Identification No.: **N/A**
World Bank Loan No.: **4446 PH**

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the Local Government Finance and Development (LOGOFIND) Project and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for the Completion of Siquijor Public Market Building II. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines: Procurement under, IBRD Loans and IDA Credits.
2. The Municipality of Siquijor invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the completion of Siquijor's new public market with 32 stalls for fish and meat at the basement, 24 dry goods stall and 16 fruit and vegetable stalls at the ground floor. The whole of the second floor section will be alloted to six (6) fast food counters and two (2) restaurants. The total floor area is 1,244.16 sq.m. It also involves the construction of stall partitions and finishings in the basement and ground floor, provision for toilet facilities, completion of drainage system, reinforced concrete pavement of the peripheral roads, electrical works and preparation and completion of access road and construction of cold storage.
3. Bidding documents (and additional copies) may be purchased on January 17, 2001 at the Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Siquijor, Siquijor for a nonrefundable fee of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos Only (P1,500.00), or its equivalent in a freely-convertible currency, for each set. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same address.
4. Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after Bid opening and must be accompanied by security of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Pesos (P170,000.00) in the form of cash, cashier's check or bank guarantee and shall be delivered to the Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Siquijor, Siquijor on or before February 19, 2001, at 11:00 o'clock in the morning at which time they will be opened in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend.
5. Pre-bid conference will be held on February 5, 2001, 11:00 AM at the Municipal Hall, Municipality of Siquijor, Siquijor.

(Sgd.) **CYRUS S. OLPOC**
Municipal Mayor

(PDI – Jan. 14, 2001)

Canadian Immigration
CONSULTANCY
www.go2canada.com
Free Assessment
MANILA OFFICE manila@go2canada.com
CEBU OFFICE cebu@go2canada.com
DAVAO OFFICE davao@go2canada.com
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TORONTO OFFICE toronto@go2canada.com
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PinoyAuctions.com
Has now moved to
4F Victoria I Building, 1670 Quezon Avenue
Quezon City
Telephone No. 415-3910
Email: customer_service@pinoyauctions.com

INQUIRER TRiViA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

In cahoots

Q. 'In cahoots' means in partnership, esp. in doing something not quite proper or dishonest. What's the origin of the phrase?

A. In parts of Europe during the Middle Ages, a time when there was little police protection, many criminals—bandits, robbers, highwaymen—ran rampant. Gangs of these criminals often stayed in makeshift cabins called 'cahutes,' and anyone thought to be in partnership with any of the gangs was described as being 'in cahoots' (originally 'in cahutes') with them.

Classified Odd. Vernon Brooks, 34, thought he was a clever thief when he robbed an appliance store in Raleigh, North Carolina, in July 1992. Before leaving the store, he disconnected the video surveillance camera and took it with him as an added bounty. However, he forgot to take the recorder to which the camera had been connected. Police found a perfect full-face shot of a smiling Brooks on the tape and had little difficulty identifying him.

For the Record. Victor 'The Count' Lustig, a high official in the French ministry responsible for public buildings, 'sold' the Eiffel Tower for $50,000 in 1922. He explained to five interested bidders that the Paris landmark was to be scrapped because the cost of its maintenance had become prohibitive. The winning bidder was Andre Poisson, a noted French scrap-metal dealer. After handling over the 'deed of sale' and encashing Poisson's check, Lustig was seen grinning in a first-class train compartment in the Vienna express. There was no report in the papers as the victim was too embarrased to go to the police. Lustig was never caught.

WORD WATCH

Corrupt (kuh rupt) : from the Latin *corrumpere*, 'to ruin.'

(PDI -- Jan. 14, 2001)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Intramuros, Manila

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed bids for the printing, supply and delivery of election forms and supplies in connection with the **May 14, 2001** National and Local Elections shall be received at the Session Hall, Commission on Elections, Postigo Street, Intramuros, Manila, on **January 23, 2001** at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon, at which place, date and time, said sealed bids shall be opened in the presence of the representatives of the Commission on Elections, participating bidders and the public. Bid documents and specifications may be obtained from the Supply Officer V, Property Division, during regular office hours, beginning **January 16, 2001**.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on **January 19, 2001**, 2:00 p.m. at the Session Hall, Commission on Elections, Intramuros, Manila.

Bids shall be accompanied by a Bidder's Bond equivalent to ten per centum (10%) of the offer, bid, tender or quotation, in the form of a cash or manager's check/ cashier's check payable to the "Commission on Elections."

The Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any defect thereon or to accept only bids which are most advantageous to the government.

January 11, 2001.

(Sgd.) **MEHOL K. SADAIN**
Chairman, PBEC

(PDI -- Jan 14, 2001)

AUCTION

Equipment formerly the property of Read-Rite Philippines Inc

A HUGE QUANTITY OF CLEAN ROOM FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF MAGNETIC RECORDING HEADS; OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT; ETC.

Over 1000 lots including

CLEAN ROOM FURNITURE - (200+) Stainless Steel Tables; (300+) Clean-Room Chairs, (150+) Wooden Work Benches; (80+) Stainless Steel Racking Systems; Stainless Steel Trolleys; Stainless Steel Cabinets; Stainless Steel Shoe Racks; Stainless Steel Smock Hangers; Stainless Steel Trash Cans; etc.

PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT - (3) CREST; KERRY Aqueous Cleaning Machines, PERKIN ELMER Auto System XL Gas Chromatograph; Ion Chromatograph; Optoflex Systems; Manual Swage Press; (2) WALKER DCM Magnetizers; (72)Re-grammers; (15) Power Distribution Boxes; (16) LESCO Auto Curing Systems; (38) Asstd. Power Supplies; (42) Eliminator Testers; (120) GLE Gram Load Enhancers; (300+) SIMCO Top Guns; (150+) Asstd. SIMCO Ionizing Blowers; (200+) 3M Workstation Monitors; (150+) Hepa Filter Frames; (400+) Hepa Filters Asstd; Filteration Motors; SWEEPSONIC ultrasonic Generators; etc.

OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT - Leather, Fabric Upholstered Executive Chairs, Fabric Upholstered Clerical Chairs; LUXUS Executive Desks; Computer Tables, Centric Tables; Credenzas; Display Cabinets; (200+) Personnel Lockers; Twelve Station Modular Office Furniture w/ Partitions; Seven Station Modular Office Furniture w/ Partitions; Electronic White Board; Notice Boards; etc.

MISC. -(300,000+) Disposable Face Masks; (20,000+) Plastic Bags; (75+) Bunny Suits; (3) Singer Industrial Sewing Machines; Brass Bar; Pneumatic Brass Fittings & Pneumatic Pipe; Air Regulators; Aluminum Light Fixtures; PVC Pipe; Electrical Wire Ways w/ Sockets; etc.

AT: Unit 1, Silangan,Canlubang, Calamba, Laguna
ON: Thursday, 18th January 2001 and (if required) Friday, 19th January 2001 at 10:30am Sharp
ON VIEW: Wednesday, 17th January 2001, 9:00am - 5:00pm
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT; Php20,000 (Upon Registration)

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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In compliance with the provisions of Republic Act 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act, the General Public is hereby notified that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the National Integrated Protected Areas Programme (NIPAP), will be conducting a public hearing relative to the establishment of Mts. Iglit-Baco as a Protected Area. The proposed NIPAS protected area includes portions within the Municipalities of Rizal, San Jose, Calintaan and Sablayan, Province of Occidental Mindoro and Municipalities of Pinamalayan, Gloria, Bansud, Bongabong and Mansalay, Province of Oriental Mindoro. The General Public, residents and stakeholders in the aforementioned areas are hereby notified to attend any of the following dates and venues:

February 15, 2001	**Calintaan Multipurpose Hall** **Calintaan, Occidental Mindoro** **9:00 a.m.**
February 16, 2001	**Sablayan Gym** **Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro** **9:00 a.m.**
February 18, 2001	**Bongabong Gym** **Bongabong, Oriental Mindoro** **9:00 a.m.**

For additional information, please contact the Office of the Protected Area Superintendent at LIUCP Building, San Jose Occidental Mindoro; Tel. No. (043) 491-4200 or at EMPAS, DENR-PENRO, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro or DENR-PENRO Calapan, Oriental Mindoro or the DENR-NIPAP, PAWB Compound, North Avenue, Quezon City; Tel. Nos. (2) 926-9163; 927-9869; 929-5594.

(Sgd.) **ANTONIO C. MANILA**
National Co-Director
National Integrated Protected Areas Programme

(PDI – Jan. 14, 2001)

January 8, 2001

INVITATION TO BID

The **PLASTIMER INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (PIC)** invites all interested parties to submit sealed bids for the purchase of the following second hand machines:

	Description	Quantity
1.	SHAPER MACHINE (running condition) Brand: CRANK SHAPING MACHINE Model: BC 6063	1 unit
2.	BANDSAW MACHINE (running condition) Brand: AMADA Model: CRS-300	1 unit
3.	PANTOGRAPH MACHINE (running condition) Brand: ALEXANDER	1 unit
4.	BRIDGEPORT MILLING MACHINE (for reconditioning Brand: BRIDGEPORT W/ POWDER PACK	1 unit
5.	BENCH LATHE MACHINE (running condition) Brand: SMTW Model: C0630	1 unit
6.	TOOL GRINDER (running condition) Brand: ALEXANDER	1 unit

Interested parties may conduct ocular inspection on the above items from :

Monday to Friday (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) and Saturday (7 a.m. - 3 p.m.)
PLASTIMER INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION at #29 T. Santiago St., Canumay, Valenzuela City.

Sealed bids must be received on or before **January 20, 2001.** Above machines are being sold on "as-is where is" basis.

For inquiries, please call up 292-7901 up to 05 local 46, 47 & 13. Contact persons are CYNTHIA S. SAMILLANO & TERESITA DESENGAÑO.

(PDI – Jan 14, 2001)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
CITY OF PARAÑAQUE
BRANCH LXXVII (77)

LUZVIMINDA C. SORIANO-KRAFT,
Plaintiff,
Civil Case No. 11482
For: "EJECTMENT"
- versus -
LUZELLE B. CAMARILLO,
Respondent.
x------------------------------x

ORDER

Finding the Motion to Serve Summons by Publication filed by plaintiff through counsel to be meritorious and in order, the same is Granted.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to Sec. 14, Rule 14 of the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure plaintiff is hereby ordered to have the Summons of this Court as well as the copy of the Complaint and its annexes be published once in a newspaper of general circulation and to submit proof of publication thereof within thirty (30) days from receipt hereof.

SO ORDERED.

Parañaque City, January 4, 2001.

(Sgd.) MA. VICTORIA ALBA-ESTOESTA
Presiding Judge

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
CITY OF PARAÑAQUE
BRANCH LXXVII (77)

LUZVIMINDA C. SORIANO-KRAFT
Plaintiffs,
CIVIL CASE NO. 11482
For: "EJECTMENT"
-versus-
LUZELLE B. CAMARILLO
Defendant/s
x------------------------------x

SUMMONS UNDER SUMMARY PROCEDURE

TO:
LUZELLE B. CAMARILLO - Kreuznacher Str. 35, 60486 Frankfurt Am Main, Germany

GREETINGS:

You are hereby required to file with this Court within sixty (60) days after service of a SUMMONS upon you, your ANSWER to the Complaint of the plaintiff, a copy of which Complaint, together with the Annexes thereof, is hereto attached and herewith served upon you, and to serve a copy of said answer, within the said period upon the plaintiffs.

The Rule on Summary Procedure shall apply in this case and you are hereby prohibited from filing a Motion to Dismiss, a Motion for a Bill of Particulars, or a Motion for extension of Time to File Pleadings.

Should you fail to file your Answer to the plaintiff's Complaint within the reglementary period therein provided for, this Court motu propio, or on motion of the plaintiff shall render judgment as may be warranted by the facts alleged in the Complaint and limited to what is prayed for therein, except as to the amount of damages, which this Court may reduce in its discretion.

WITNESS, the HON. MA. VICTORIA ALBA-ESTOESTA, Presiding Judge of this Court, this 4th day of January 2001.

ATTY. RAMIL Q. REYES
Clerk of Court IV

By:
(Sgd.) VIRGILIO C. DAVID
Clerk of Court III

Republic of the Philippines
National Capital Judicial Region
Metropolitan Trial Court
Parañaque City
Branch

Luzviminda C. Soriano-Kraft,
Plaintiff,
-versus-
Civil Case No. 11482
For: Ejectment
Luzelle B. Camarillo and all other persons claiming title under her name,
Defendants.
x------------------------------x

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, by counsel, unto this Honorable Court, most respectfully states: That-

1. She is of legal age, married, resident of Am Rinnerborn 40, 35418 Buseck Germany; Defendant is likewise of legal age, single and a resident of Kreuznacher Str. 35 60486 Frankfurt Am Main, Germany. Summons may be served upon defendant by publication in a newspaper of general circulation, in accordance with Section 15, Rule 14, 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure.

2. On August 06, 1997, she agreed (in an Interim Contract executed in Germany) to sell her No. 86 Wenceslao Vinzon Street, BF Homes, Parañaque City property to defendant, upon full payment of the 90,000.00 Deutschmark consideration.

3. On the pretext of wanting to have the house inspected, defendant requested plaintiff to lend the house keys to her representative, one Atty. Danny Bunye, who, once in possession of the keys, must have forgotten to return it back to the plaintiff.

4. It later came to her knowledge that since the time defendant got hold of the keys and up to the present, the entire house or portions of it are being leased to different persons without her consent.

5. On January 21, 2000, she and her husband purposely came to the Philippines to inspect the property. She recounts having to force her way through because its occupants would not let them in, allegedly upon instructions of defendant's representative. Once inside she found two rooms occupied. A certain Joane Lenit occupied the first room with her year old child while a student name Rhoda Gasalao occupied a second room. The other parts of the premises are used in common. Both tenants claim leasing from defendant's representative.

6. Subject house has three bedrooms, a maid's room, two bathrooms, a living room, a dining room, a kitchen, and a separate laundry area, the aggregate floor area of which is 120 square meters. Said house sits on a 280 square meter lot located inside the BF Homes Subdivision.

7. From August 8, 1997 up to January 21, 2000, the reasonable compensation for the use of her property is about Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P350,000.00) Philippine Currency.

8. Although she partially regained possession of her property, the two tenants are still occupying two rooms of her house and are still using the common areas necessary for their daily activity. Plaintiff must therefore be compensated the reasonable amount of P3,000.00 monthly, for each, until both rooms are finally vacated.

9. For their special trip to the Philippines and for the duration of their three weeks stay, plaintiff incurred expenses in the sum of P60,000.00.

10. In a letter dated January 31, 2000, she asked defendant and all other persons claiming right or title under the latter's name to vacate subject premises and to pay her P350,000.00 as reasonable compensation for using her property from August 8, 1997 to January 21, 2000, but defendant simply ignored said demand without justifiable reason therefor.

11. By reason thereof, plaintiff was constrained to engaged the services of counsel with whom she agreed to pay attorney's fees in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00).

WHEREFORE, after hearing, it is prayed that judgment be rendered against defendant and in plaintiff's favor ordering the former and all other persons claiming right or title under her name to vacate subject premises at No. 86 Wenceslao Vinzon's Street, BF Homes, Parañaque City, and that defendant be made to pay plaintiff the following sums:

P350,000.00 - as reasonable compensation for using (leasing) plaintiff's property from August 8, 1997 to January 21, 2000 plus the further compensation of P6,000.00 monthly from January 22, 2000 until defendant's tenants vacate subject premises.
P100,000.00 - as attorney's fees and litigation expenses, and
60,000.00 - as part of actual compensatory damages.

Such other relief/s as the court may deem proper is also prayed for.

Parañaque City, 31 January 2000.

GARIN LAW OFFICE
Attorneys for the Plaintiff
27 President Avenue
BF Homes, (1720)

By: (Sgd.) D. Olaso Garin
IBP O.R. 482072, 12-29-99
PTR6897889/Manila 1-3-2000

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION

Luzviminda C. Soriano-Kraft, of legal age, married, resident of 35418 Buseck Am Rinnerborn, 40 Germany, after swearing in accordance with Philippine Law, deposes and says, that -

1. She is the primary plaintiff in the above-entitled case,
2. She caused the preparation of the foregoing complaint,
3. She read and understood the allegation therein,
4. The averments therein are true and correct as of her own knowledge and belief
5. Neither she nor her husband has commenced any action involving similar issues before any other court, tribunal, or quasi judicial body or agency of the government,
6. To her knowledge, no similar acase is pending before other court, tribunal or agency of the government, and
7. Should a similar case come to her knowledge, she undertakes to inform this Honorable Court within five days.

Parañaque City, 31st January 2000.

(Sgd.) Luzviminda C. Soriano-Kraft
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN on this 31st day of January 2000 affiant with Philippine Passport No. EE 516333, valid until January 5, 2005.

(Sgd.) DANTE O. GARIN
Notary Public
Until Dec. 31 2001
PTR 6897889
Manila 1-3-2000

Doc. No. 5
Page No. 2
Book No. 1
Series of 2000

(PDI – Jan. 14, 2001)

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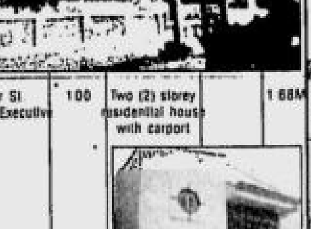
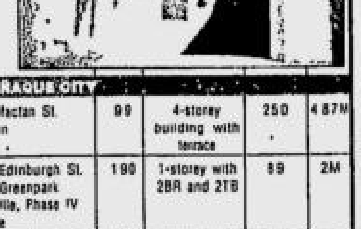
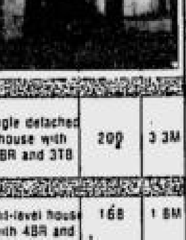
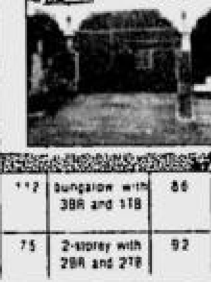
Blk. 1 Lot 9 Buenos Aires, Townhomes Sumulong Highway	72	split-level with 3BR and 2TB	106.4	1.08M
Blk. 2 Lot 17 Adarna St. Marville II Subd. Antipolo City	179	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	203	2.3M
Along Andover St. Vermont Park Executive Mayamot	100	Two (2) storey residential house with carport		1.68M
BULACAN				
Blk 1 Lot 6 and 7 Diamond St. EMMCO Subd. Pandayan Meycauayan	300	single detached house with 4BR and 3TB	200	3.3M
CAINTA, RIZAL				
Phase 4F 105 Dama de Noche St., Greenland	207	split-level house with 4BR and 3TB plus mezzanine and basement	168	1.8M
Blk 8 Lot 7 Canella St Greenland Subdivision	170	2-storey with 4BR and 2TB	165	1.8M
CALOOCAN CITY				
Blk 1 Lot 46 Canero Subd., Deparo	779	2-storey building	520	2.8M
D-7 Deparo Road Deparo	2500	2-storey house with 2BR and 2TB, shophouse, warehouse	558	8.9M
GMA, CAVITE				
Blk 24 Lot 4 Maskap St	200	unfinished 2-storey unit 4BR and 1TB	253	1.08M
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
No 30 Rosal corner Verbenna and Santan St Vergonville Subd.	414	2-storey with 7BR and 5TB	456	3.8M
MAKATI CITY				
Cityland 8 Condominium Sen Gil Puyat		residential unit 715 (2BR/2TB)	64.70	351 sqm
Unit 1102 Sunnette Tower, Durban St cor Makati Ave		condominium unit	38.37	2M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
MUNTINLUPA				
125 Lipa St., Ayala Alabang Village	864	2-storey with 4BR and 4TB swimming pool	548.5	20M
No 169 Buendia St. to Muntinlupa		21 unit townhouse	60.71 to 78.40	615T 745T
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
1379 Mactan St. Baclaran	99	4-storey building with terrace	250	4.87M
No 3 Edinburgh St. South Greenpark Greenville, Phase IV Merville	190	1-storey with 2BR and 2TB	89	2M
PASAY CITY				
No 14-C Stanford St Adela Hidalgo Village	64.75	3-storey townhouse with 3BR and 3TB	163.8	3.125M
No 14-D Stanford St Adela Hidalgo Village	64.75	3-storey townhouse	194.42	3.305M
PASIG CITY				
120 Rome St Pasig Greenpark	200	2-storey with 4BR and 3TB	148	2.2M
QUEZON CITY				
Unit 17 Ma Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd. Brgy San Agustin Novaliches	35.1	townhouse with 2BR and 1TB	52.12	450T
Blk 10 Lot 37 Don Alejandrino St Greenfield 3 Subd. Susano	204	single detached with 5BR and 1TB	144	1.50M
No 9 D Mozart St. Greenville Subd. Tandang Sora	42	2-storey townhouse with 3BR and 2TB	81.6	1.2M
Unit 8, Fairview Mansions, Carnet St. Fairview	59.12	townhouse with 2BR and 3TB	108	1.9M
TAYTAY, RIZAL				
Blk 7 Lot 27 Washington St Cresdaville II Subd	112	bungalow with 3BR and 1TB	86	900T
No 475 Topaz St Palmera Homes II	75	2-storey with 2BR and 2TB	92	7.1T









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Republic of the Philippines
Regional Trial Court of Manila
National Capital Judicial Region
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JAMES HONG TIENG,
Plaintiff,
- versus -
Civil Case No. 98-90763
SPS. MOISES LIBERA and EMERLITA LIBERA,
Defendants.
x------------------------------x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

WHEREAS, by virtue of the Writ of Execution issued by the HON. WILFREDO D. REYES, Judge of the REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF MANILA, BRANCH 36 dated November 23, 2000, in the above-entitled case against the defendants Sps. MOISES and EMERLITA LIBERA for the recovery by way of distraint of the sum of SIX MILLION TWO HUNDRED FOUR THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY SIX PESOS and EIGHTY ONE CENTAVOS (P6,204,766.81) with interest thereon for 15 months, counted from the date of Compromise Agreement at the rate of 1% percent per month and the further sum of 5% percent of the principal obligation as and for attorney's fees; together with your lawful fees for the service of this execution in connection with the execution and sale, LEVY was made on November 29, 2000 upon the real estate property of the defendants Sps. Moises and Emerlita Libera which is more particularly described as follows, to wit.

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 111844

A parcel of land (Lot 331-A of the subdivision plan (LRC) Psd-242380 being a portion of Lot 331, Lipa Cadatre, LRC Cad. Record No. 1279), situated in the Poblacion, City of Lipa, Island of Luzon, Bounded on the NE, points 4 to 1 by the Road; on the SE, points 1 to 2 by lot 333, Lipa Cadatre x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x- containing an area of ONE HUNDRED NINETEEN (119) SQUARE METERS more or less.

(Including all improvements existing thereon)

NOW THEREFORE, by virtue of said Writ of Execution and in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 18, Rule 19 of the New Rules of Court of the Philippines, the undersigned Sheriff, hereby gives notice to all interested parties and to public in general that on the 5th day of February 2001 at 10:30 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, infront of the Main entrance of Lipa Municipal Hall, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction to the highest bidder/buyer for CASH and in Philippine Currency the above-described real property together with all the improvements existing thereon, in order to satisfy the said writ of execution, together with all the expenses for the auction sale.

The notice of Sheriff's sale will be published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks, the first publication to take place at least twenty days before the date of the auction sale.

Likewise three (3) copies of the Notice of Sale will be posted in three (3) conspicuous place in the City of Lipa, Batangas, where the auction shall take place.

NOTE:
Prospective buyers/bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real estate property and the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Manila, Philippines December 4, 2000.

(Sgd.) JESUSA P. MANIÑGAS
Clerk of Court and
Ex-Officio Sheriff

By:
(Sgd.) CARLOS P. GARCIA
Sheriff IV

PUBLICATION RAFFLED TO:
Philippine Daily Inquirer

DATE OF PUBLICATION:
January 14 & 21, 2001

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late • PRISCILLA A. LIQUICIA • was judicially settled by her heirs as per Doc. No. 30 Page 6 Book No XVI Series of 2001 by Atty. Vergel L. Olivarez (PDI-Jan.14,21&28,2001)

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late Virgilio A. Aquino has been extrajudicially settled by and among his heirs per Doc. no. 86, Page no. 10; Book no. 1; Series of 2001 in the Notarial Register of Antonio Malonzo a notary public for Manila PDI-January 14,21 & 28, 2001

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that Stock Certificate No A-0933 of the Royale Tagaytay Country Club registered under the name of SPECIFIED CONTRACTOR AND DEVELOPMENT INC. has been lost / misplaced as evidence by an Affidavit of Loss signed and executed by management of Royale Tagaytay Country Club Inc. under Doc No 130 Page No 26 Book No 06 Series 2000 of the Notarial Register of Oscar T. Fiel register in the book of the corporation. (PDI-Jan. 7,14 & 21, 2001)

PERSONAL

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND SAINT JUDE

May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.
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St. Jude, worker of miracles, helper for the helpless, pray for us.
Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eighth day, it has never failed.
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CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

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This week being Autism Consciousness Week, a series of events has been lined up, including a workshop on abuse of persons with autism

ILLUSTRATIONS: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Out of harm's way

By Vangie Baga-Reyes

IT'S not unusual to hear stories about children being abused by their family, friends or service providers. Physical or otherwise, these children are wounded and violated against their will. It hurts to hear of their sufferings but it's far more disheartening when the offense is committed against children with disabilities.

For instance, a 10-year-old boy with autism was tied to his bed for days because he threw tantrums by tossing objects around his room. A 21-year-old man, also with autism, was padlocked inside the toilet room because he scattered feces around the house. Another autistic boy was forced to live in a doghouse because he could not comprehend a simple instruction.

In Europe, these abusive acts against people with autism have been considered extreme acts of violence punishable by law. In the Philippines, it has been merely called "mistreatment" of handicapped people.

Discipline or abuse

Why is this so?

"Because we haven't actually defined the difference between acts of violence and acts of discipline toward people with autism," explains Cathy Tañedo, executive director of the Autism Society of the Philippines. "We say it is mistreatment since most people just don't know how to deal with autistic children and adults." For one, to calm down people with autism, who usually manifest uncontrollable behavior, they

OUT/ p.C4

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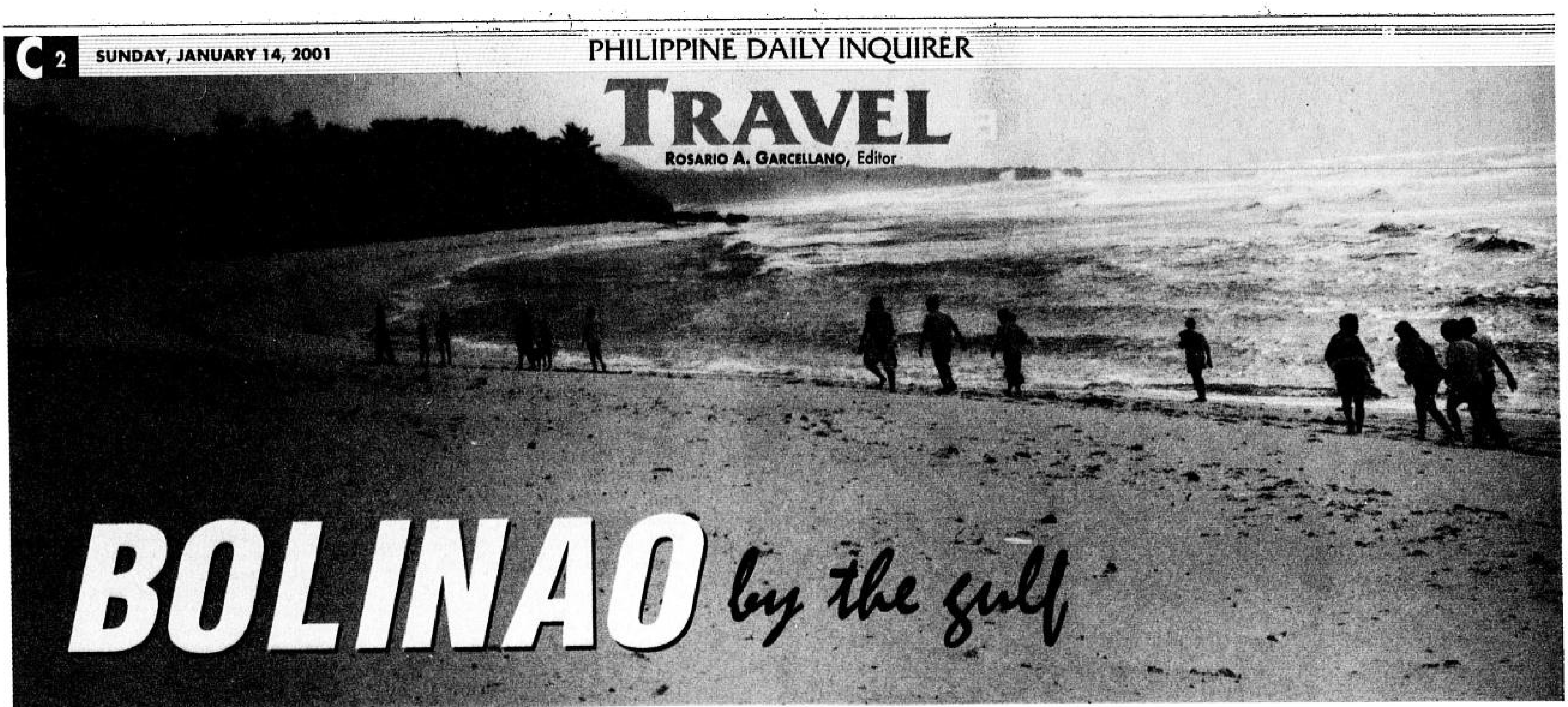
TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor



PATAR White Beach at the tip of Pangasinan

BOLINAO by the gulf

BY BIBSY M. CARBALLO

BOLINAO at the tip of the Pangasinan peninsula on Lingayen Gulf is sufficiently far from the madding crowd for one to get lost in the beauty and solitude of nature. Yet it is near enough (some 280 kilometers and four-and-a-half hours by car) to reach in a weekend trip on good roads from Manila.

Which is exactly what we did to welcome the New Year, far from the suffocating fumes of firecrackers and fireworks, as has been our habit for the past decade.

One can take an air-conditioned bus for a six-hour trip (Victory Liner, P340; Five Star, P297; Dagupan Bus, P247) to Bolinao, but the ideal way is, of course, by private vehicle so one has the leeway to stop along the way at points of interest.

The shortest route bypassing Dagupan is this: Take the North Expressway to Dau, go on to the MacArthur Highway passing Tarlac City, and stop for breakfast at the ultra-modern Luisita Mall, which has all the known outlets from Jollibee to Pancake House to choose from.

From Tarlac City, take the route that goes to Camiling, Tarlac, which leads to the Pangasinan rice flatlands of Mangatarem, Aguilar, Bugallon, Samat, Lingayen, Labrador, Sual, Alaminos, Pogo, and Bani, with its dozens of unpainted Spanish-vintage homes.

And then the terrain turns hilly, and one finally reaches Bolinao.

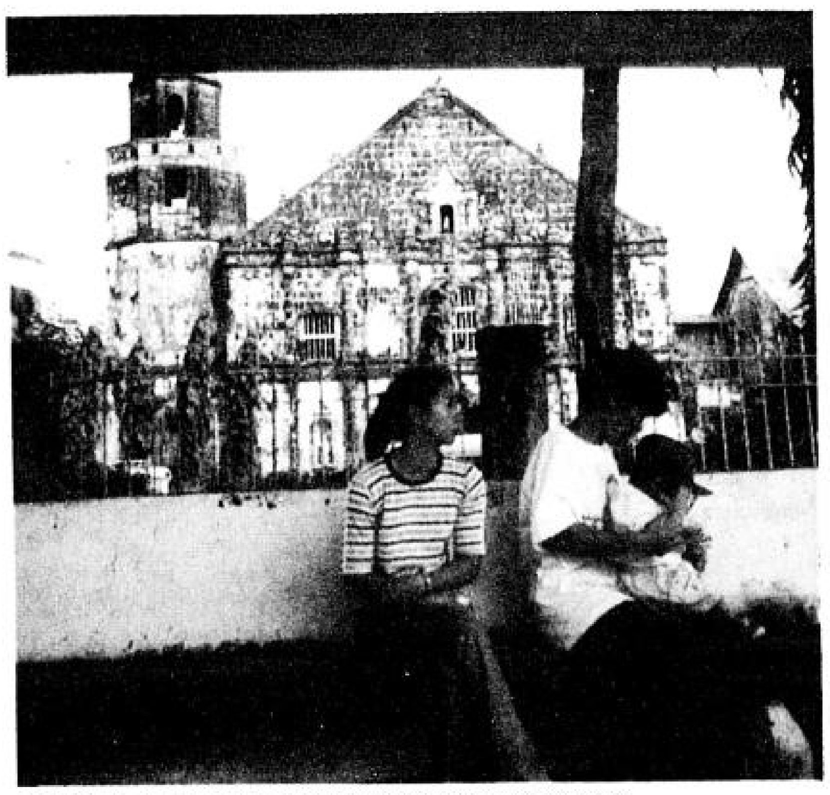
Along the highway on Sual stands the Countryside Diner (075-5482005). It is ideal for a lunch stop because it serves good, clean and inexpensive meals.

One can take one's pick from chopsuey with ampalaya, young corn, snow peas and broccoli for P60; beef with mushroom and young corn, P70; sweet-sour pork, P70; steamed lapulapu, P60 per 100 grams; lechon kawali, P65; bistek tagalog, P65; daing na bangus, P85; beef tenderloin with mushroom and onions cooked in red wine, P120; and minute steak, P130.

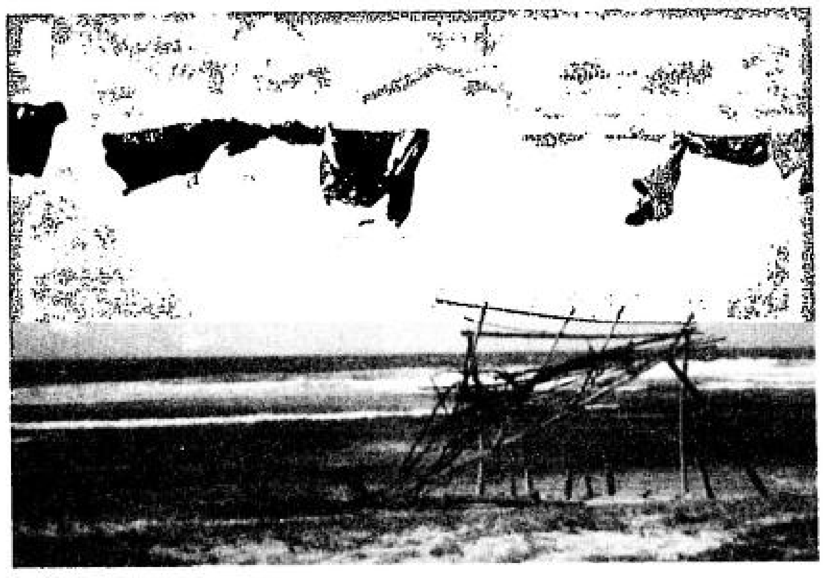
It has clean bathrooms, running water, soft toilet paper, and toilets that flush.

The trip from Sual to Bolinao takes around 20 minutes, and the town's most prominent landmark is an old church dating back to 1609, which doubled up as a fortress in the Spanish era.

One only has to ask for directions to get to Patar White Beach, and will easily reach a coastal road of more than 10 kilometers of white beach.



THE OLD church in the plaza, which dates back to 1609



LAUNDRY hung out to dry

> Time flies as one sits on the beach. And even if just for a few days, threats of bombings and recession seem so far away

For accommodations, one can choose from a handful of beachfront resorts the oldest and most comfortable of which is the Dutch Beach Resort operated by Dutch expatriate F.C. Westbrock.

The resort offers air-conditioned rooms that can each accommodate six, with a private bath and refrigerator, for P1,600 a night. It also has a restaurant and spacious verandas. Reservations may be made in Bolinao (0063-075-5543392) or in the Netherlands (0031-0-36-5373652 or 5378080).

Apparently, the 15-room resort has become a favorite of movie production outfits shooting bold films that require a beautiful beach without too many onlookers.

We settled for the more rustic, less expensive Coco Beach (cell phone 0918-3808953, open 2-7 p.m. daily), which offers native huts along the beach, each good for four persons. The rate in the off-season is P600 a night, and in the summer, P1,000.

There are common shower and toilet facilities, and the operators, Sidney Tombaga and family, go out of their way to make you feel comfortable. There is no restaurant, but they can cook for you or allow you to cook using their facilities.

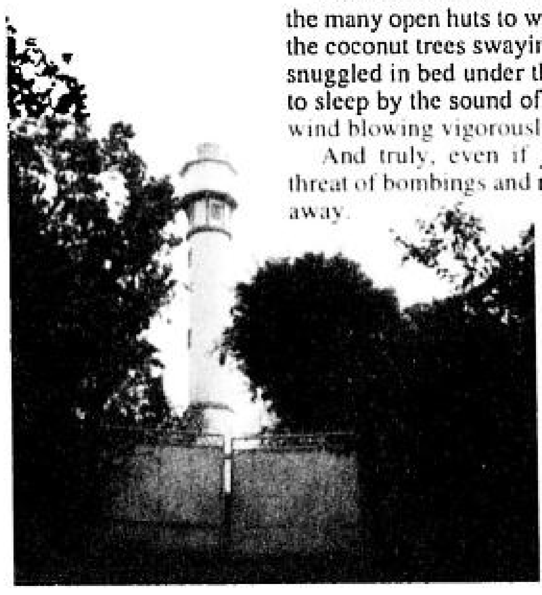
The best thing about going off-season is that one has the beach and the resort practically to oneself. The white sand is actually a coarse light yellow, the waters are clear. And the waves are wild, brought about at this time of year by the *habagat* or west monsoon.

One can actually walk on the beach to the tip of the island, where the Patar White Beach is the most popular (it gets filled up with guests during Holy Week). Here, the surf is wilder as it hits the boulders along the shore. The landmark is the old lighthouse that stands on a hill.

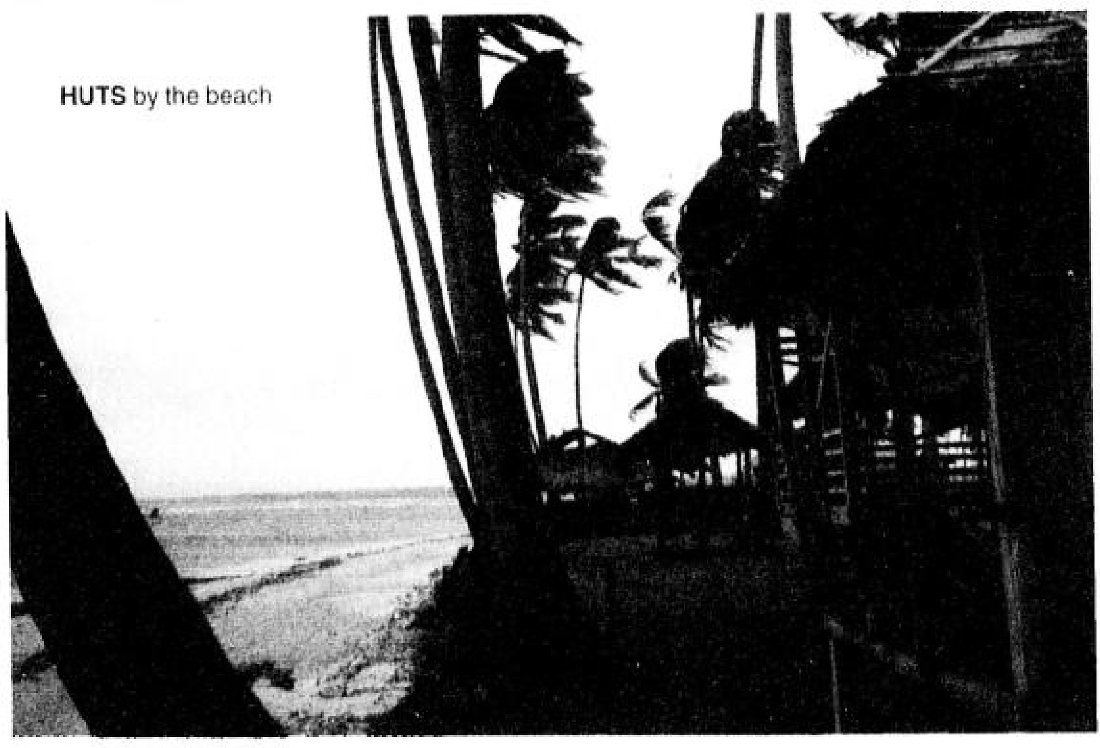
TREES whipped by the wind

Time flies as one sits on the beach or in one of the many open huts to watch the waves roll in and the coconut trees swaying in the breeze. At night, snuggled in bed under the clear sky, one is lulled to sleep by the sound of the waves and the strong wind blowing vigorously on the sides of the hut.

And truly, even if just for a few days, the threat of bombings and recession seems so far, far away.



ENDURING landmark: lighthouse



HUTS by the beach

TRAVEL BRIEFS

New Year in HK

HONG KONG celebrates the Chinese New Year on Jan. 22-26.

There will be sales galore in keeping with the Chinese tradition of "out with the old, in with the new."

The Hong Kong skyline will become a visual treat, with the tall buildings serving as grand greeting cards of the Year of the Snake.

Among the highlights of the celebrations are the Cathay Pacific New Year's Day Parade, which has evolved into an international spectacle of floats, costumed participants, bands and cultural troupes, and the fireworks display at the Hong Kong harbor.

Adams Express Travel has packaged a Hong Kong tour for the convenience of travelers. For inquiries and reservations, call 521-1638 or 51).

Boom in Abu Dhabi

NEW tourism projects implemented in Abu Dhabi in 2000 were estimated at Dh2.2 billion, surpassing those in previous years, the United Arab Emirates Embassy said, citing sources in the tourism industry.

Three projects were launched—for the Abu Dhabi National Hotels Co. at a total cost of Dh700 million; the Rotana Hotel Group, Dh1.2 billion; and the Marina Trade Center, Dh280 million.

The first project included the setting up of an "entertainment city" in Mussafah comprising a 150-room hotel and shopping center, a parking lot, 50 chalets, a children's sports complex, parks and resorts, with a total cost of Dh500 million.

It included as well the expansion and renovation of the Abu Dhabi Sheraton Hotel, with the addition of five restaurants, a sports and entertainment resort, and swimming pools. This will be completed in October.

Work on the biggest tourism and commercial project, the Abu Dhabi Trade Center, is ongoing. The first phase of the project, estimated at Dh650 million, will be ready for opening in February.

One more for Marriott

FOR THE FOURTH consecutive year, the readers of Business Traveler magazine named Marriott Rewards the "Best Hotel Rewards Program in the World," outdoing Starwood's Preferred Guest and Hilton's Honors program.

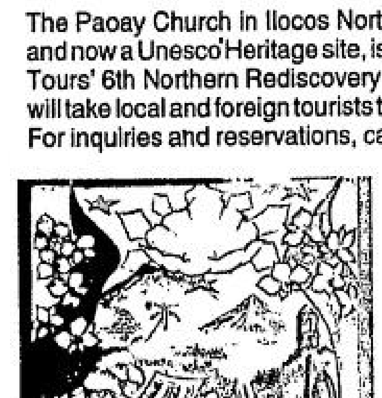
"We are especially pleased to be highly rated by Business Traveler magazine because it truly reflects the opinions of frequent travelers" said Holly Mendelson, director of loyalty and data base marketing for Marriott Rewards.

In the Philippines, Marriott Rewards members can earn more points or mileage by staying at the New World Renaissance Hotel in Makati City or the Cebu City Marriott.

According to New World, Marriott Rewards points never expire, and the program stands alone as the largest provider of free nights.

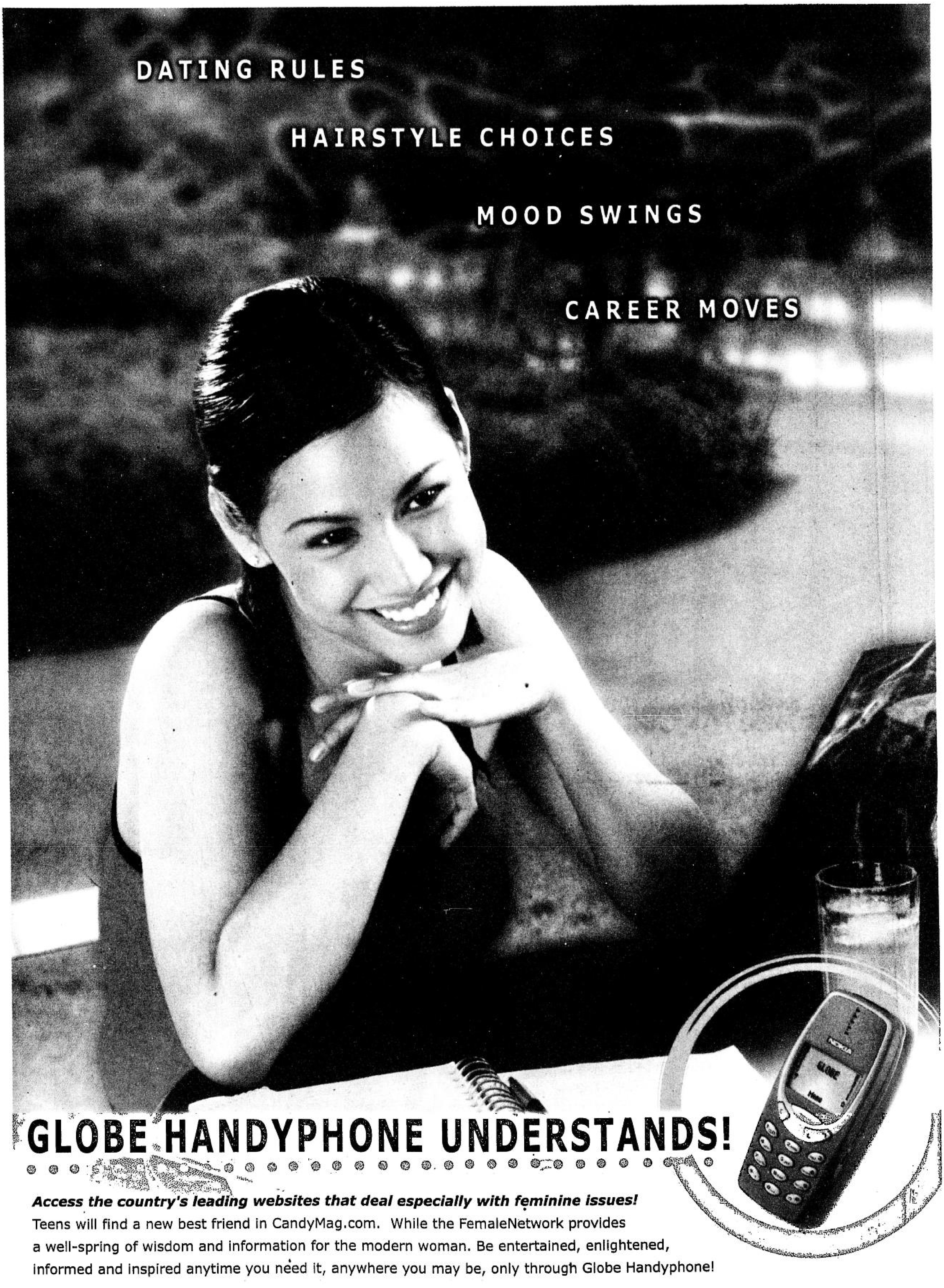
UNESCO HERITAGE SITE

The Paoay Church in Ilocos Norte, built by the Augustinians in 1593 and now a Unesco Heritage site, is among the attractions of Causeway Tours' 6th Northern Rediscovery Tour on Jan. 25-28. The adventure will take local and foreign tourists to the Ilocos provinces and Cagayan. For inquiries and reservations, call 853-8728 and 853-8652.



WINNING ENTRY

Winners of the Department of Tourism's nationwide poster-making contest, "Pride of Place," have been chosen and awarded cash prizes and certificates of achievement. Among the winners is University of Mindanao student Emmanuel Rebato, whose entry is shown at left. The contest was aimed at promoting youth involvement in the local tourism industry.


DATING RULES
HAIRSTYLE CHOICES
MOOD SWINGS
CAREER MOVES
NOKIA
GLOBE

GLOBE HANDYPHONE UNDERSTANDS!

Access the country's leading websites that deal especially with feminine issues!

Teens will find a new best friend in CandyMag.com. While the FemaleNetwork provides a well-spring of wisdom and information for the modern woman. Be entertained, enlightened, informed and inspired anytime you need it, anywhere you may be, only through Globe Handyphone!

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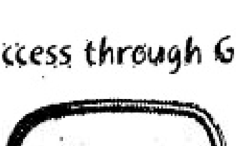
Hotline: 730-1000 / www.globe.com.ph

Access through Globe WAP:

1


If you're a first time WAP user, type in the keyword (specific to your phone type) and send it to 2333 and the WAP phone configurations will be sent to you.
The keywords are:

- For Nokia 7110/6210-nokiawap
- For Siemens M35-siemenswap
- For EricssonR320s-ericssonwap
- For Motorola T2288-motorolawap

Follow the settings and configure your phone.

2

Menu
Services
Home
Exit

If your WAP handset is already configured, then go to the services menu of your WAP-capable phone and click on Home.

3

Connecting to service
Cancel

You will then see a prompt advising you that you are being connected to the service.

4

GLOBE TELECOM
New Sites

Once connected, the Globe Homepage will appear. Click on the Female Views under the Entertainment Category and WAP away!

Out of harm's way

(From page C1)

must be kept "still" in one place whichever way possible. "It's not because we really want to hurt the autistic child or the adult. We just have to calm them from their excessive behavior." In the United States, for example, people with autism are put in a straightjacket or tied to a chair to control the kids when they began manifesting aggressive behaviors like, beating themselves, knocking their heads against the wall, pulling their hair, or screaming. "The hugging effect of the straightjacket soothes them." For parents, it is a painful sight to see their children in that situation. But, for the educators and professional therapists, such is part of the process of appeasing them. So, where do we draw the line between discipline and abuse?

"We are still in search of the right answer to that question," admits Tañedo. So far, there is no official record of abuse committed among persons with autism as far as ASP is concerned. All horror stories about mistreatment are based on hearsay, according to Tañedo. "We have no documents to verify these stories. Nobody wants to come out in the open to complain or at least ask help from us." But, there's one thing they are sure of—abuse can be done in the house, school, workplace or even in recreational area.

Bill of rights

Autism is a neurological disorder caused by a central nervous system dysfunction affecting the ability to understand and use language, and interact with people in the environment. In Europe, they have created a charter and bills of rights for persons with autism. The Autism-Europe believes that people with autism should share the same rights and privileges enjoyed by all, where such are appropriate and in the best interests of the person with autism. The same rights have been adapted in the Philippines.

For the Autism-Europe and ASP, the best way to prevent violence or mistreatment is by respecting the rights of persons with autism.

To further discuss the definition of violence and mistreatment among handicapped people, ASP will hold a workshop-seminar to mark the Autism Consciousness Week (Jan. 14-20). ASP has lined up a series of events along the theme, "Pilipinong May Autismo: Ako Ay Ikaw Rin." A roundtable discussion on the prevention of mistreatment/abuse/violence against persons with autism in the home, in school and in the workplace will be held on Jan. 17, 9 a.m., Quezon City Hall. Discussants include Gloria Galvez, director of National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons; Karen Dumpit, director of Child Rights Center of the Commission on Human Rights; Dr. Reynante Basas, director of the Forensic Office, CHR; Dr. Emy Liwag, psychologist and director of the Ateneo Wellness Center; Perla Jamoralin, chief of the special education division of DECS; Dr. Stella Guerrero-Manalo, developmental pediatrician, child protection unity, PGH; Menchit Borbon, directress of Hew Horizons Center for the Developmentally Disabled; Elena Caraballo, executive director of the Council for the Welfare of Children, DSWD; and representatives from the Department of Labor and Employment and the Bantay Bata Foundation.

On Jan. 22, a walkathon will be held starting from the Sugar Regulatory Administration grounds along North Avenue to the Quezon Memorial Circle followed by a short program. Assembly time is at 7 a.m. This will be participated in by ASP member schools and government agencies. For details, call ASP office at 926-6941 and 434-9249 or e-mail autism-phils@pacific.net.ph.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS... JAN. 15-21
JO
EVERYD
MONDAY
DOUBLE SPAGHETTI SPECIAL
NOW ONLY ₱38 SAVE P 20
TUESDAY
2-PC BURGERSTEAK
NOW ONLY ₱35 SAVE P8
FRIDAY
DOUBLE JOLLY HOTDOG
NOW ONLY ₱47 SAVE P 11
SA
BANANA LAN
NOW ONLY ₱
★ Not available for delivery.

Resources that help draw a clearer picture of autism

BY CATHY BABAO GUBALLA

WHERE do you go for help if you have a child who is confirmed to have autism, a life-long condition that is marked by deficiencies in verbal, social and thinking skills?

Dr. Therese Jalandoni-Macapagal, executive director of Cupertino School for Special Children and mother of a person with autism, Andre, now 34 years old, says, "Parents today are more fortunate because there are more resources available for them. There are more treatments to choose from, more special educators, etc... Several decades ago, it was an entirely different ballgame."

Lawyer Mel Alog is a board member of the Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP) and mother of Stephen, a 7-year-old with autism. Alog says the multidisciplinary approach toward assessment and diagnosis is the best way to go, although this is not always financially feasible for a majority of parents. Alog suggests a visit to a developmental pediatrician, "who will make a diagnosis, and everything follows from there."

Inquirer Lifestyle came up with a list of resources for parents whose children have been diagnosed with autism. It is our hope that these guideposts will make your journey an easier one.

Local organizations

- ***The Autism Society of the Philippines (ASP)***, a nonstock, nonprofit organization of parents, professionals and institutions dedicated to the education and well-being of children and adults with autism. Services provided are orientation and counseling services for families of newly diagnosed autists, family group support sharings, referral services, siblings program support group for brothers and sisters of persons with autism, discounts on reprints of reading materials, a lending library and bookshop, newsletter and continuing education of families, teachers, therapists and caregivers. Annual individual membership is at P200/person. Call 926-6941 for more information. The ASP office is at 307 ML Building, 47 Kamias Road, QC.
- ***Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD)***, a nonstock, nonprofit organization run by Professionals for Autism Foundation Inc. in affiliation with the National Autistic Society (UK) and the Autism Society of the United States. CARD aims to provide autistic persons and their families with a broad range of services addressing their various needs. Services offered are diagnostic assesment, educational programs (FIT-oriented—functional, integrated and team approach), ancillary educational programs (home programs and tutorial services), training and development that address the specific coping needs of parents, siblings and other caregivers, autism research, community outreach. CARD is located at 898 Palace Road, BF Homes, Las Piñas City. Call 820-8719 for more information.
- ***A Child Can Foundation Inc.*** was set up by one mother inspired by her own experience with her autistic child. The foundation offers hope and services to families and professionals working with young children diagnosed with autism, dyslexia, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Asperger's disorder and other learning disabilities. Mainstreaming the child in a regular classroom and creating as close to a normal future as possible for these children and their families are the foundation's goals. Services provided are intensive in-home behavior therapy programs (one-on-one), parent training, comprehensive evaluation, analysis and consultations, trips and outings, social play/play dates (tutor—or parent-facilitated play dates); mainstreaming (providing shadow teachers); referrals to recognized specialists and doctors. A Child Can Foundation Inc. is at 2/F Natividad Building, 2308 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City. Call 843-0494 and 843-0497 for more information. Website is at www.achildcan.com.

Developmental pediatricians

- Anna Trechler-Borgaly, MD, Medical Towers Makati, 818-8582
- Jocelyn Eusebio, MD, Quezon City General Hospital, 455-2162
- Agnes Falcotelo, MD, Capitol Medical Center, 372-3825 to 44 local 3235
- Marie Arranz-Lim, MD, Child Development Consultants, 413-4611/4613
- Stella Guerrero-Manalo, MD, Medico Building, Ortigas; 633-6686
- Carmencita Padilla, MD, St. Luke's Medical Center, 723-0101 (*Dr. Padilla is a developmental pediatrician/geneticist)
- Alexis Reyes, MD, Philippine Children's Medical Center 924-6601 to 25 local 273
- Vilma Bagay-Salcedo, MD, St. Luke's Medical Center, 723-0101 local 6524

Psychiatrists

- Cornelio Banaag, MD, Medico Building, 631-6961 local 516
- Portia Luspo, MD, Polymedic

RESOURCES/ p.C6

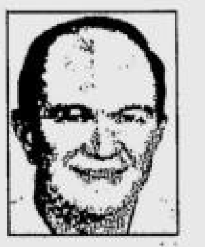
LLiBEE
AY SPECiALS
WEDNESDAY
DOUBLE 1-PC
BURGER STEAK
ONLY ₱45
THURSDAY
6-PC SHANGHAi ROLLS
VALUE MEAL*
NOW ONLY ₱39 SAVE P3
TURDAY
GKA POCKET PIE
10 SAVE P 3.50
SUNDAY
DOUBLE REGULAR
FRENCH FRiES*
NOW ONLY ₱22 SAVE P 14
Jollibee

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0124, Series of 2000

A nostalgic costume ball

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell



THE CASINO Español de Cebu's costume ball on New Year's Eve was a big success, as many came in colorful getups and varied disguises. There was nostalgia in the air as many thought this was the last grand ball in the old building. There are plans to tear it down and construct a new edifice with better services, underground parking and updated sports facilities.

Deena Pages decorated the Casino ballroom with curling serpentines of all colors, balls sparkling like gems hanging from invisible cords and masses of balloons attached to the chandeliers or floating like bubbles all over the floor. Busy as the proverbial bee was **Gema Pido** who was in charge of the splendid buffet supper served after the clock struck 12.

Meanwhile, from 9 p.m. to midnight there was dancing and stomping, interrupted briefly for the costume parade. Sitting as judges were **Girlie Sarmiento**, **Helen Misa** and **Neema Mangharan**. Casino president **Jess Cuenco**, with his beautiful wife, **Tess**, was eager to know who'd win the prizes. Vice president **Ed Misa** and house chairman **Mariano Martinez** stood in the wings, ready to announce the names and gift the winners with bottles of champagne.

Adjudged Best Group were The Pirates, who came in two versions—year 1700 and year 2001. Dr. **Guimo Blanco**, who led the pack, was dressed as Captain Hook. He had a rusty hook for a left hand, a screeching parrot for a mascot and a sinister black patch over one ear. And he was the main protagonist in a brief skit that had him burying a treasure chest along with the rest of his band—**Inday Blanco**, **Joe Utzurrum**, **Joe** and **Lynn Suaco**, **Alberto** and **Maritere Rotaeche**, **Jimmy Mercado** and daughter **Pia**, **Ralph Zuluaga**, **Terry Manguerra**, **Julie Escaño** and **Tina Unchuan**.

The Pirate of 2001 discovered the chest, and there were gales of laughter as **Eddie Dakay**—whoever cleverly drew that moustache on him?—hobbled his way up to it, map in hand, followed by three slinky lovelies **Chinggay Utzurrum**, **Ellen Zuluaga** and **Chona Bernad Mercado**, who had a ball prying open the lid and pulling out the contents. Golden ropes, strings of pearls, glowing gems, bills and coins, etc.

"OLÉ Carmen Olé," and that's Carmen Campbell all right, clicking castanets and swishing the tassels.

ENRIQUE Aboitiz as El Caballero with pretty *señoritas* (from left) Hazel Gonzalez, Evelyn Ugarte, Rosebud Sala and Lulu Aboitiz

One outstanding group which also got its share of applause and champagne bottles was that of **Enrique Aboitiz** who was in Andalucian costume with a guitar, while pretty *señoritas* clicked castanets, swished their shawls, whirled in their ruffled skirts by **Minnie Yuviengco** and shouted "Olé!" The lovelies? **Lulu Aboitiz**, **Rosebud Dala**, **Hazel Gonzalez**, **Evelyn Ugarte** and **Carmen Campbell** whose arts/crafts shop turned out those magnificently embroidered "mantones de Manila."

Millie Avila was cited for her richly brocaded Thai costume, complete with headdress towering like a pagoda. **Edgar Gica** was unrecognizable as the mysterious swashbuckling El Zorro, cape and all. Great couples were **Winglip** and **Pinky Chang** as Punks, **Jun** and **Connie Selma** in leather outfits a la wild, wild west.

EDDIE Dakay's moustache makes him irresistible to Cebu's three loveliest (from left) Chinggay Utzurrum, Ellen Zuluaga and Chona Mercado.

* * *

Mariecor Salas Ding took it upon herself to search for Cebu's 5 Prettiest. After months of preparation, the culmination took place at the Cebu City Marriott Hotel whose ballroom was packed with more than 300 persons, when reservations had been made for over 200. A storm raging outside and blinding rains did not kept the audience from this display of pulchritude and beauty.

The five are **Sarah Lei Spagnolo**, **Rio Caparida**, **Brenna Satterfield**, **Niña Mae Villegas** and **Menchita Arlene Dy**. They sport more than just beauty titles as Mariecor made them "ambassadresses of goodwill" for five beneficiary organizations, namely, SOS Children's Village, Euphrasia Development Center, Cebu Hope Center, Free Lava and Share A Child Movement.

SIEMENS
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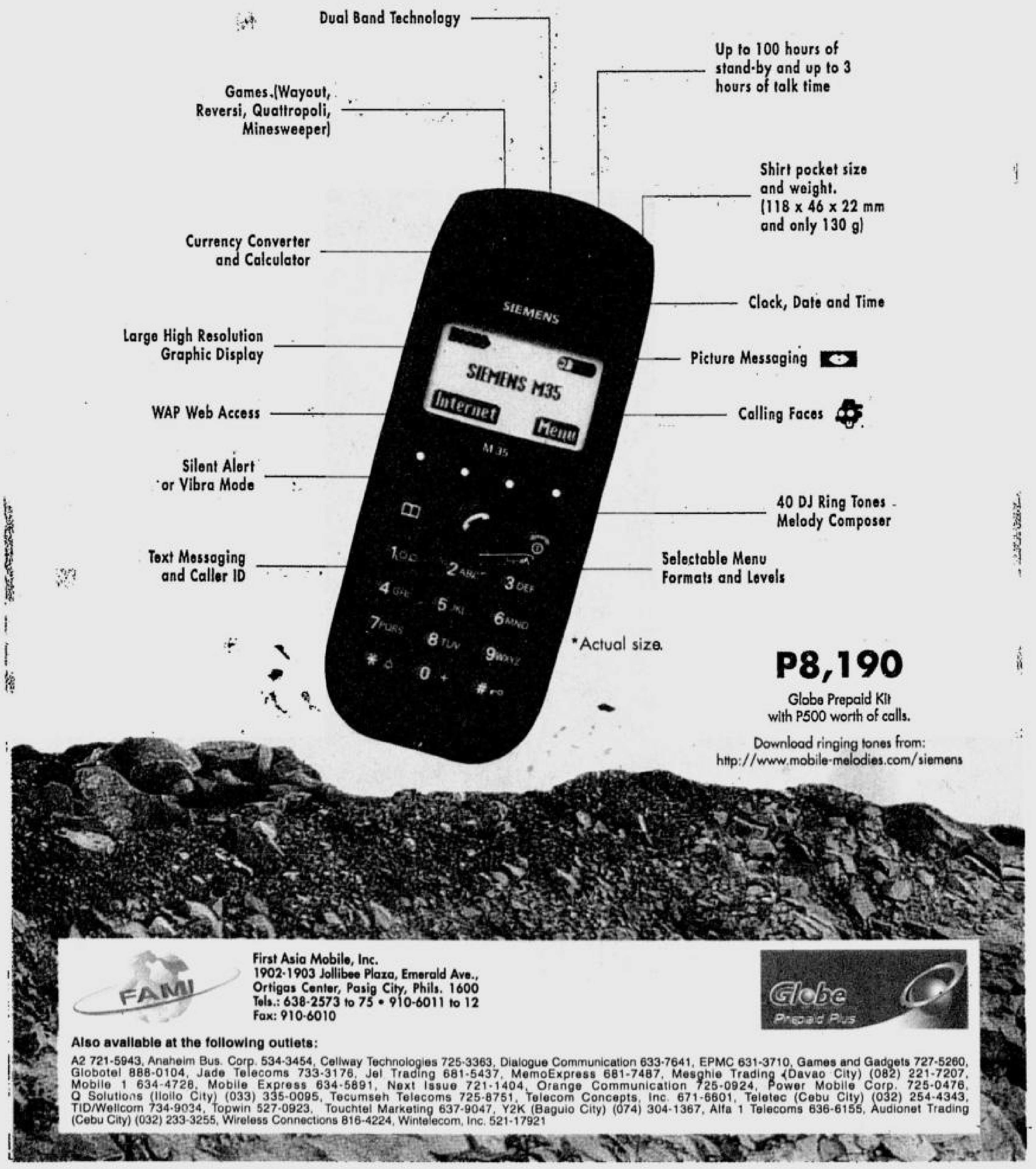
Dual Band Technology
Games (Wayout, Reversi, Quattropoli, Minesweeper)
Currency Converter and Calculator
Large High Resolution Graphic Display
WAP Web Access
Silent Alert or Vibra Mode
Text Messaging and Caller ID
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Calling Faces
40 DJ Ring Tones - Melody Composer
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M35

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Resources that help draw a clearer picture of autism

(From page C5)

Hospital, 531-7959/4911

Neurologists

- Marilyn Ortiz, MD, Philippine Children's Medical Center, 924-6601 local 305, 325, 307
- Joe Robles, MD, St. Luke's Medical Center, 723-0101

Neuropsychologist

- Ma. Lourdes Ledesma, Ph.D., Suite 805, Kalaw-Ledesma Condominium, Makati, 816-4798, 892-7205

Clinical psychologists

- Lourdes Arellano-Carandang, Ph.D., Cardinal Santos Medical Center, 727-0001 local 831, contact Nerissa
- Emma Liwag, Ph.D., Ateneo Wellness Center, 422-5659

Special education assessment

- Edilberto I. Dizon, D.Ed, St. Luke's Medical Center, 723-0101 local 5707

Surgeon

- Miguel Mendoza, MD, UERM, 715-0861 local 217

Dentists

- Dr. Claire Ann Aquino, Makati City, 831-2371
- Dr. Lourdes Caparas, Milelong Building, Makati, 815-2396
- Dr. Rally Garcia, Taytay, Rizal, 660-4624

Occupational therapists

Contact the Autism Society of the Philippines for a complete listing or referrals by area.

Therapy/rehab centers

- Able Center, San Antonio Village, Makati City, 895-5523
- Skillbuilders Therapy Center, Leon Guinto, Manila, 536-7444
- UP College of Allied Medical Professionals (CAMP), UP Manila, 526-5867
- Learning Inn, Marikina City, 997-6646
- God's Children Rehab Medicine and Development Center, QC, 633-2107 to 08
- Behavioral Management for Autistic Children Foundation Inc. (BMAC), Medical Towers Makati, 892-9220
- Community-Based Rehabilitation Program for Children and Young Adults, Payatas B, QC, 938-7238
- Akapin Inc. (community-based rehabilitation), Malolos, Bulacan, (044) 791-4742

For provincial centers, call the ASP office.

Public schools accepting persons with autism:

- Silahis ng Diwa, M. Hizon Elementary School, Tondo, Manila, 252-2223
- Silahis ng Kapayapaan, Legarda Elementary School, Sampaloc, Manila
- Silahis ng Kaunlaran, P. Gomez Elementary School, Sta. Cruz, Manila, 736-3288
- Silahis ng Pag-ibig, P. Burgos Elementary School, 714-5118
- Silahis ng Ligaya, Lukban Elementary School, Paco, Manila
- Batino SPED Center, Project 2, QC, 372-0753

For private schools and other special education institutions nationwide, call the ASP office.

Surfing the world of autism

- Autism Society of America (ASA) home page at www.autism-society.org. This website is the leading source of information and referral on autism and the largest collective voice representing the autism community for more than 33 years.
- Families for Early Autism Treatment (FEAT) at www.feat.org provides world-class education, advocacy and support for the Northern California Autism community. Provides a comprehensive directory of resources—persons and institutions that may be tapped for information and consultation.
- Autism Resources at www.autism-resources.com is created by a father of a person with autism. Very comprehensive links to various autism sites.
- Cure Autism Now at www.canfoundation.org, a nonprofit organization dedicated to finding effective biological treatments, prevention and a cure for autism and other related disorders. Successfully lobbied for the Children's Health Act of 2000, which established five national centers of excellence for autism research and clinical consultations.
- Autism Information at www.autisminfo.com has a database of treatments and therapies being used by parents of children with autism. Contains resources for applied behavior analysis, educational links to pages dedicated to diet and autism and a section dedicated to parents offering an action plan for those whose children have been newly diagnosed with autism. Filled with valuable tips and suggestions.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

Alternative advice to a beleaguered reader

By Jon-Jon Rufino

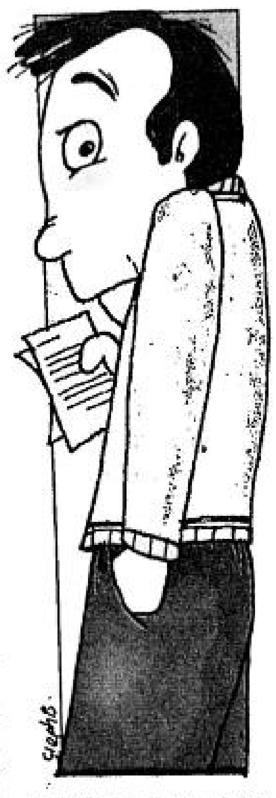


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

"I AGREE with you, *hijo*, that people in general do not understand homosexuals." Your admission, Tita Dulce, as your column ("A man thinks he's gay and fears rejection," PDI Lifestyle, 01/07/01) shows, includes you.

It took great courage from your letter writer, Gabby, to express his concerns and fears, and it is a testament to your rapport with your readers that he chose to seek solace with you. And while I do not doubt that you answered his letter with the best of intentions, I can tell you that if I were in his shoes, I would have walked away from the exchange even more confused and scared. Although your column is infused with your particular brand of grandmotherly love, the advice that you gave him, not to act upon his homosexual desires, to seek professional help so that he can be a "normal" heterosexual, and to "modulate" the "outward manifestations of his homosexuality," i.e. his effeminate mannerisms, was essentially the same as communicating to him that he was not good enough as he was, and that he would be much better off, and perhaps the world would be much better off, if he would just ignore his base desires and become straight.

True, you made the very important distinction between the desire and the action. However, I don't think it was quite fair to compare fantasies of rape with those of homosexuality, though you clearly didn't equate the two.

And I have some trouble with your point that a man who has almost exclusively male sexual fantasies is not really a homosexual until he has a real relationship with a man. The implication of this for everyone else is that the average young man or woman is not really a heterosexual until they consummate their desires with another.

Sexuality is determined long before the actual act, and influences far more than who one goes to bed with, though perhaps much less that what the typical stereotypes imagine, which unfortunately, you fall victim to.

You advised Gabby to "modulate your effeminate manners or the outward manifestations of your homosexual tendencies."

Unspeakable

Dear Tita Dulce, didn't anyone ever explain to you that not all homosexuals are effeminate, and that not all effeminate people are homosexuals? Some of the most manly figures in history and mythology have been discovered to feel "the love that dare not speak its name." Achilles and Hector, Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Michelangelo and Frederic the Great. It is very unfair to assume that Gabby has effeminate mannerisms just because he has that one friend who asked him if he was gay. It is very possible and likely that his friend inquires because of the more appropriate reason, that he seems not be romantically interested in women.

And even if Gabby has gentler mannerisms than the rest of us, this is not to be a source of shame. It is true that some of us find it funny at first, and may have a tendency to ridicule those who "shriek when excited, sway the hips femininely when walking, or flap the hands too limply when gesturing," but that is ultimately our fault. When we prevent ourselves from interacting with people like these because of our prejudices, then we lose out, we miss out on wonderful opportunities to make friends and learn perspectives that we are alien to. With this train of thought, what would have been advised to adventurous women like Madame Curie, Gabriela Silang (our Joan of Arc) and Cory Aquino (our David toppling Goliath)? I don't really know what their mannerisms in youth were like, but it is clear that they did not allow society to dictate to them what was appropriate for a man to do and what their actions must be as women.

And as harsh a statement as this is, when someone hides something because he fears to be ridiculed, then he participates in the ridicule, because he does nothing to change the status quo.

There is, of course, another wonderful possibility. Gabby may find that people are not nearly as homophobic as he imagines, that most of the people of his generation, and many of those beyond that are quite tolerant, no, quite accepting and understanding. The world can be a much more beautiful place, Tita Dulce, if you give it a chance, and it is only the stalwarts of colonial mentality, as if born under the period of foreign occupation, that believe that one should be judged according to religion, economic status, class, race, gender and sexual orientation.

It is very important to make that distinction, between gender and sexual orientation. Despite the fact that I find little admirable about one of our stubborn, sleeping senators, I cringe whenever I hear jokes being made turning his gender into the feminine. The same for a son of our very congenial President. These jokes should insult each one of us in the same way that we should find racial slurs about Jews and Chinese offensive, or as much as Rizal and Manglapus found insulting remarks on the supposed indolence of *indios*.

Going back to your column, it is of course admirable that you advice your reader to consult with a psychologist. Clearly, he is suffering now from the weight of his own fears. However, any psychologist worth his salt will teach him to first discover who he really is, and then accept it for himself. While it may have been all the rage to subject patients in the past to shock therapy and all other forms of Pavlovian torture in order to make him conform to society's standards, the thing that will make Gabby the happiest now is for him to accept who he is, and only he can ultimately determine that.

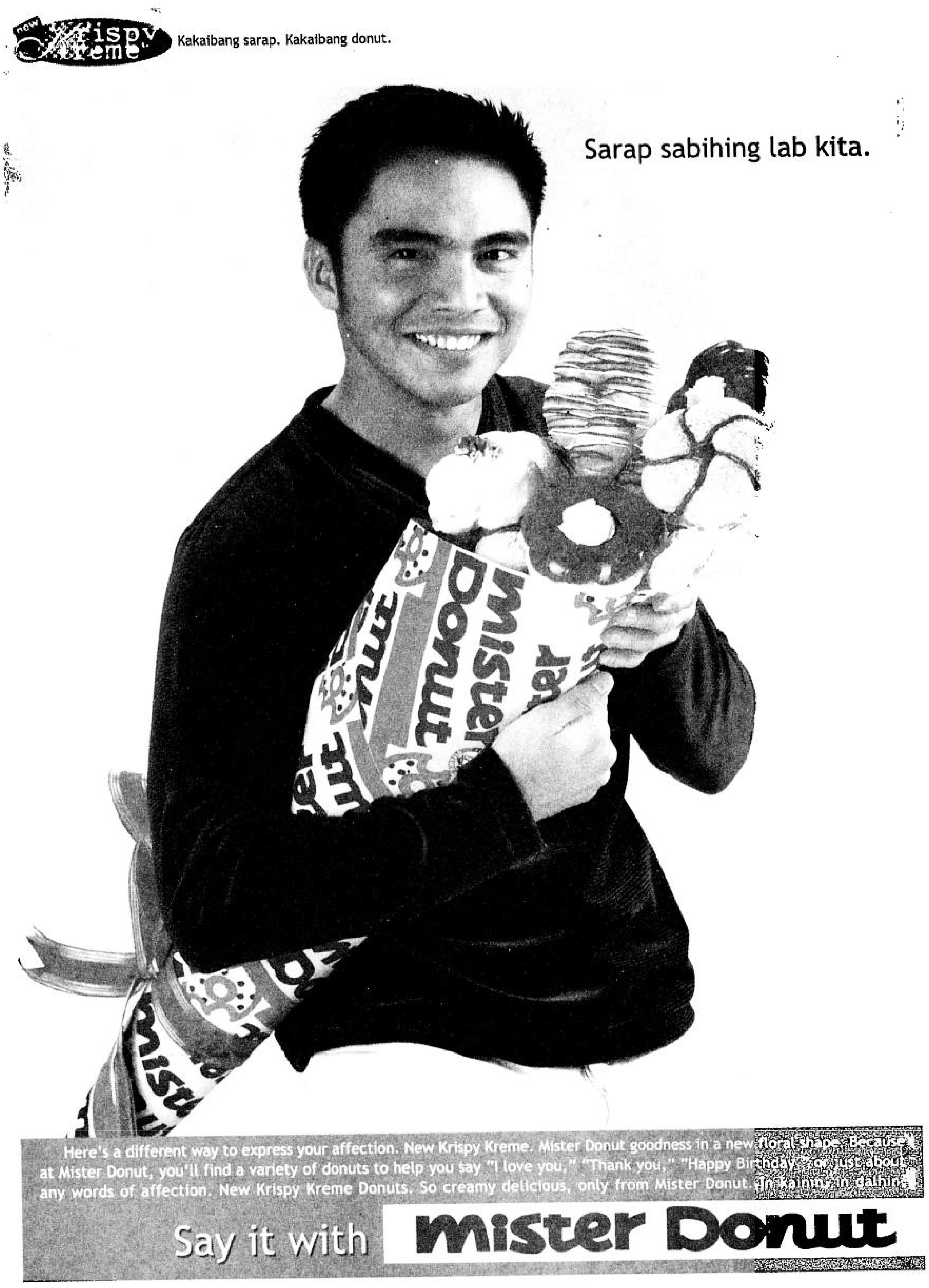
Choices

"If one were a homosexual... he can still be an effective legislator, or a talented artist, a productive employee or a creative entrepreneur, a useful community member, a good and caring friend, a beloved son or a dear brother."

In your very charitable enumeration of the life choices left to gays, I couldn't help but notice that you did not mention educator. I'm sure you don't mean to imply that homosexuals should not be teachers? Do you think that entrusting children to them is more dangerous than entrusting children to heterosexuals? Also, while it is very touching that you remind us that gays can be beloved sons or dear brothers, I neglected to read caring parent. Is this an indication of where you stand on homosexual adoption? And what of those who suppressed their natural desires to fulfill the expectations of their parents and society, and had a spouse and children, but then later on realized that they could not be happy lying to everyone. Don't they continue to make good parents?

The title of your article is "A man thinks he's gay and fears rejection." While there are still people in this world that justify his fears, only if people accept him for who he is and let him live his life without fear will his fears of rejection stop.

> Only when people accept a gay for who he is and let him live his life without fear will his fears of rejection stop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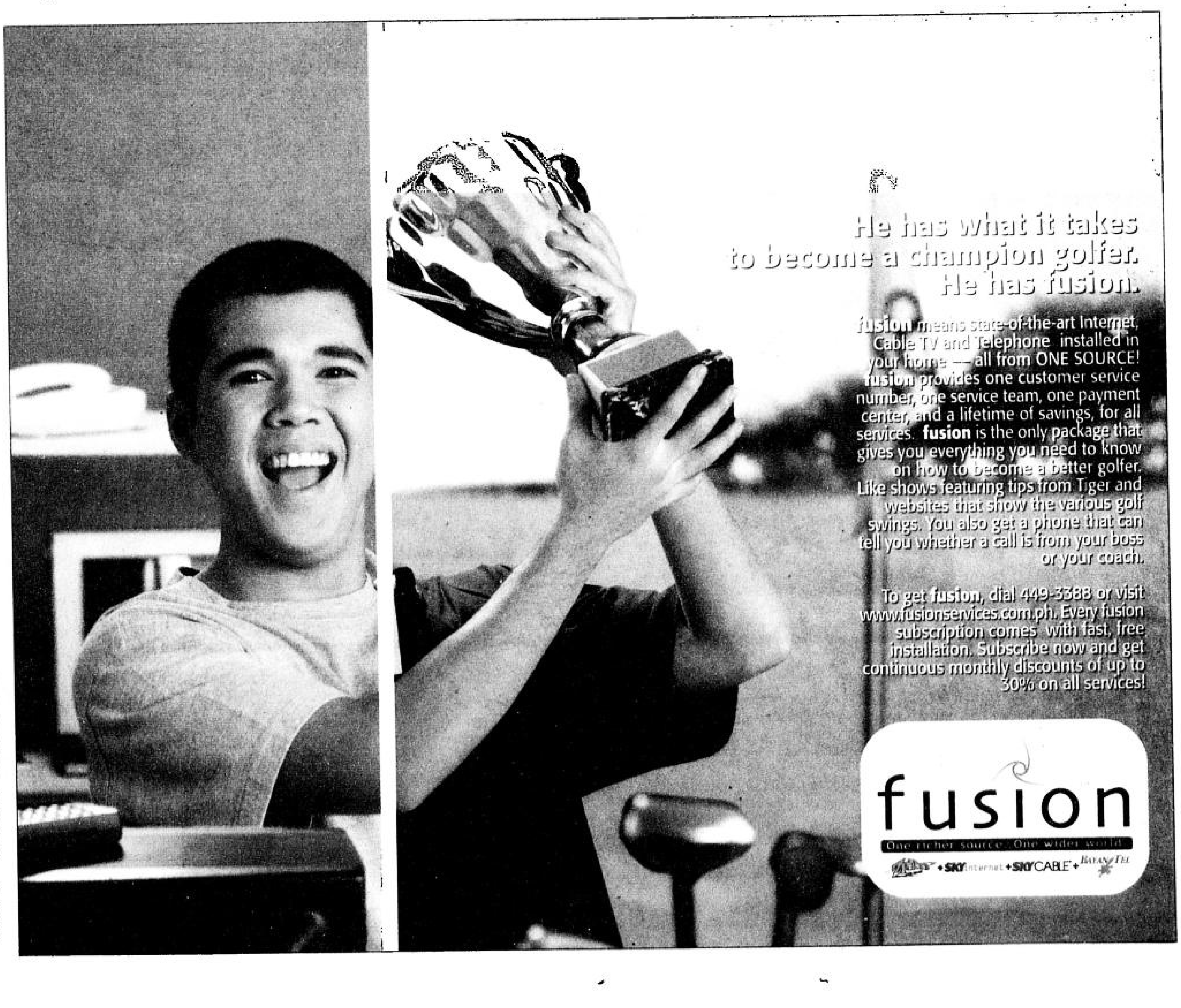
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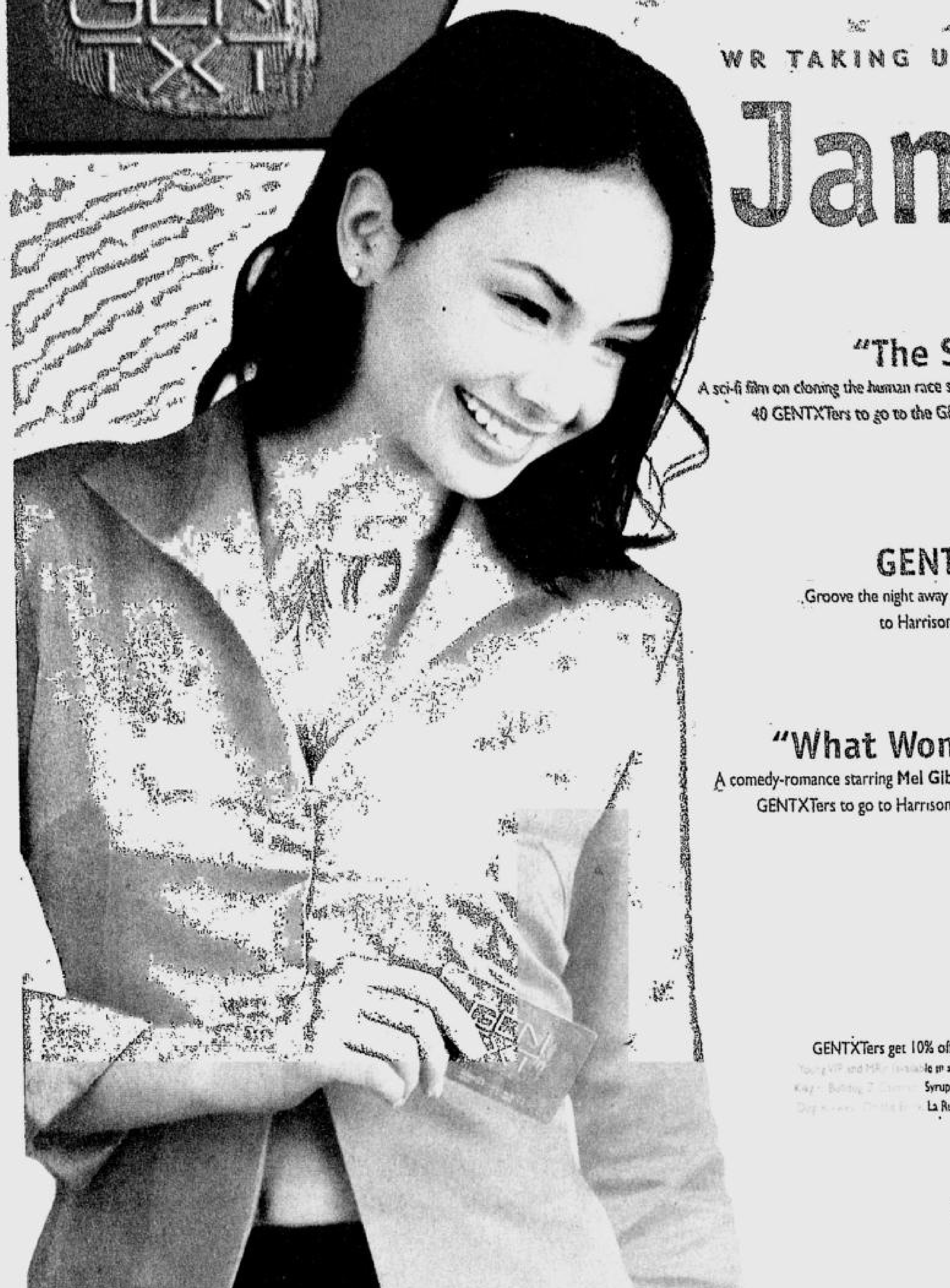
January Gig Guide



"The Sixth Day", Advanced Screening

A sci-fi film on cloning the human race starring **Arnold Schwarzenegger**. Be one of the first lucky 40 GENTXTers to go to the GENTXT Booth at Glorietta (near Burger King) and Greenbelt starting December 27.

>> Greenhills Theater - 7:30 PM

02

GENTXT Crossover Live Party

Groove the night away in this spirited party. Be one of the first 15 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications* to get a pair of tickets starting January 13.

>> Chef & Brewer, Ortigas - 9:00 PM

18

"What Women Want", Advanced Screening

A comedy-romance starring **Mel Gibson**, **Helen Hunt** and **Marisa Tomei**. Be one of the first 45 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications* to get a pair of tickets starting January 25.

>> SM Megamall - 7:30 PM

29

New Partners

This year opens with more establishments for GENTXTers to enjoy!

Rustan's Department Store

GENTXTers get 10% off on all regular cash-purchases of Young Adult brands at **Rustan's Department Store**: Young VIP and MA[illegible] (available at all branches - Makati, Shangri-la Plaza, Cubao, Harrison Plaza, Alabang and Cebu), Dollhouse, Paris Blues, Free People, Kay[illegible] Bulldog [illegible] Syrup, Mudd Jeans and Tops, Ultimate Swimwear, Tango Rose, Daffy, Rebel Beach, Point Zero, BC Ethics, Wooden Dog [illegible] La Rue Bags, Studio 18, Lel Bags and Shoes, Steve Madden Shoes and Accessories, Report Shoes, Me Too Shoes, Rocket Dog, Idea Nuova, Habitat and Blue Q (only in Makati, Shangri-la Plaza and Alabang).

Discovery Spa

GENTXTers get free manicure/pedicure for every full body massage at **Discovery Spa**, Ortigas Center, on cash and credit card payments. Not valid for any other offer.

Art Avenue

GENTXTers get 15% off on cash purchases and 5% off on credit at **Art Avenue**, Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center.

Planet Mars

Every GENTXTer and one guest get free entrance every evening until twelve midnight at **Planet Mars**, A.S. Arnaiz Avenue (formerly Pasay Road). Not valid during special events or shows.

Pro Golf

GENTXTers get 10% off on specific golf equipment (Excalibur, Kunnan, Mitsuhiba, Uniqe, Horizon and Prestwick), free swing analysis and custom club fitting. Golf lessons available with prior appointment at **Pro Golf**, Park Square, Alabang Town Center and Shangri-la Mall.

ck Calvin Klein and Nautica

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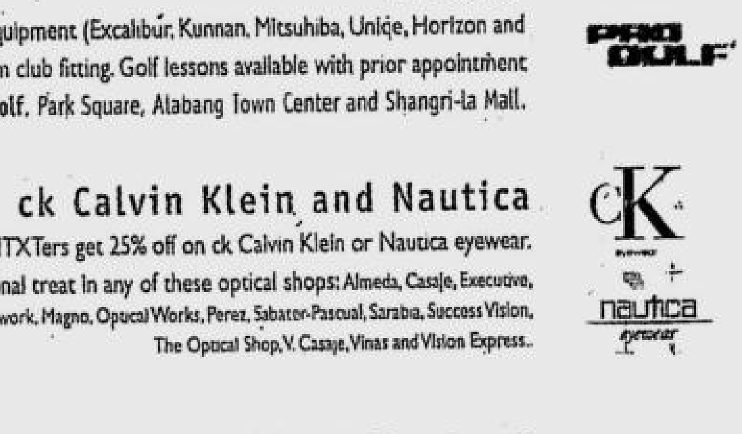
Avail of this sensational treat in any of these optical shops: Almeda, Casaje, Executive, George, Good Vision, Lenswork, Magno, Optical Works, Perez, Sabater-Pascual, Sarabia, Success Vision, The Optical Shop, V. Casaje, Vinas and Vision Express.

ACA Video Offer 2 + 2

GENTXTers flash their GENTXT cards and bring home two more VHS tapes for every two tapes they rent at **ACA Video**. Waived membership fees for GENTXTers.



*HARRISON COMMUNICATIONS is at the 4F First Life Center Bldg., 174 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Look for GENTXTer Cecille, flash your GENTXT card, and get your free tickets.

Your GENTXT card is your passport to free invites, exclusive events and privileges and bigger discounts.

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- Membership fee of P200 to be paid upon approval of application.

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You can also get the latest GENTXT gig guide from InfoText by keying-in GENTXT and sending it to 2333.

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Laarni loyalists

By Chelo Banal-Formoso

> All you hear about Laarni Enriquez is bad stuff, her friends complain, just because she is such a private person

IT was a very small group of women who attended the birthday lunch hosted by Betsy Quisumbing in honor of Robert Castañeda last month at the Richmonde Hotel. Small, but interesting.

Among Castañeda's well-wishers, it turned out, were persons who personally knew Laarni Enriquez, one of President Estrada's mistresses and mother of three of his numerous children.

Bebu "Bumbay" Bulchang, Naty Pappas and Castañeda were bothered that the media was foisting an image of Laarni on the public that was different from the one they knew. And, as Castañeda put it, whenever something negative came out on TV or the papers about the First Lady or Guia Gomez, someone almost always came out the next day to refute such

LAARNI/ p.D2

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Laarni loyalists

(From page D1)

things. Jinggoy would come out in defense of Loi, JV would defend his mom, but, Laarni's children being too young, nobody spoke up for Laarni.

All you heard about Laarni was bad stuff, they said, just beçause she chose to keep her privacy.

Favorite person

Bebu was described by the others as Laarni's confidante. Laarni is godmother to Bebu's child. When the girl had to have surgery, Laarni went to the United States with them and helped look after the child. She reportedly has a way with children. Ask Pappas' young granddaughter who her favorite person in the world is and she would answer, "Tita Laarni."

"She is *maasikaso*, very thoughtful, always concerned," said Castañeda. "She's very down to earth, unpretentious" added Pappas, who recalled that when they were on a trip to the US, Laarni washed dishes. "I kept telling her to leave the dishes, we'd just use the dishwasher but she could not be stopped." Bebu said Laarni even washed her clothes one time they were on a trip. "That's the kind of friend she is."

Laarni's friends said she went to church on Tuesdays at Forbes and on Sundays at Santuario de San Jose in Greenhills, but since the *jueteng* scandal broke out, she hasn't gone out much. On Jan. 7, the Sunday before she left for Hong Kong, Mass was said in her home in Wack Wack. She was in good spirits—at least better than she was in December.

According to Bebu, Laarni felt so out of sorts after the *jueteng* exposé the house in Wack Wack was bare of any Christmas spirit. "You should really see," said Bebu. "*Wala siyang* Christmas décor or what—nothing. *Nawalan siya ng gana*."

The public knew

Bebu said that before Erap became President, everybody already knew about Laarni. They were reminded that while the public knew about the mistresses, nobody knew about the mansions.

"But that mansion does not belong to Laarni," Bebu insisted. "*Nakitira lang sila pero hindi siya ang may-ari ng* mansion." Bebu said that Laarni's house in Wack Wack was being renovated. "*Maamoy ang pintura, kawawa ang mga bata. Marami talagang nagpapahiram ng bahay*," said Bebu, who also denied that the pool at the Boracay mansion was a "wave pool." It was a 4-ft-deep pool, that's all. "*Banyo nga lang bumabara pa*."

When they got back from the US where Laarni got a medical checkup, after Chavit Singson's exposé, Bebu said Laarni did not go back to the Boracay mansion but went to live again in her Wack Wack home, despite the repairs going on because "*malaking* issue *na ang* Boracay."

"*Masama talaga ang loob ni* Laarni. *Wala siyang* Christmas spirit, *wala siyang ka*-life-life. *Wala*—the house is completely bare. *Sabi nga niya—dito na lang tayo, mag*-pajamas *tayo at magkulong na lang tayo. Nasaktan talaga siya kasi hindi ganoon ang pagkatao niya.* Alam mo '*yung* dialogue *ni* Presidente, *tama na, nasasaktan na ang pamilya ko—alam niya si* Laarni *nasasaktan pero hindi sinasabi ni* Laarni *sa kanya*."

Cancelled Christmas

Laarni reportedly cancelled a scheduled caroling visit by a group from Xavier School, "*kasi baka isipin ng mga* teachers *yung ibibigay ko sa inyo ay galing sa jueteng*." That was Bebu repeating what Laarni said. "*Si Laarni derecho magsalita*," said Bebu. "*Kung pula, pula. Kung itim, itim. At saka sabi ng yaya ni* Jake, '*Ma'am 'yung mga* teachers, *bibigyan po ba (ng* Christmas gifts)?' '*Wala. Wala kayong bibigyan. Maski dito sa* compound, *wala kayong bibigyan. Sabihin mo pera ng jueteng 'yon, kaya hindi natin puedeng ibigay'*."

Laarni's friends said she only found out about Rowena Lopez from the news. But she knew of Joy Melendrez because the President supposedly owned up to her but asked for forgiveness.

The group said Laarni was very picky about whom she invited to her home. And if you got invited to her home, you were expected to show up alone. You could not just bring someone along. Even the friends of the President could not just drop by or call her house, they said. Bebu denied that Chavit was ever at Laarni's house.

Laarni's friends were quick to deny that she was a "10-percenter" or "commissioner" (pejorative terms for someone who uses influence to push a business proposal that requires government authorization and gets paid for it). She earned her own money selling jewelry, they said.

When you're President, or even when you're the President's mistress, people would offer you all sorts of gifts, but to Laarni's credit, her friends said, she paid for everything.

Bebu said they went to the duty-free shop once and the people there, including GM Pong Salud, were beside themselves attending to her. When the President got home and inquired, "Love, *inasikaso ka ba nila sa* duty-free?" Laarni said yes, but that she did not need for them to do that. She paid for everything she got.

The lunch and these conversations took place in December. On Jan. 11, it was reported that Laarni left the country for Hong Kong with her confidante Bebu, narrowly skirting the serving of a subpoena to testify in the ongoing impeachment trial.

WELL-WISHERS. Birthday celebrant Robert Castañeda with Laarni's confidante Bebu Bulchang and friends Naty Pappas and Susan Limjuco

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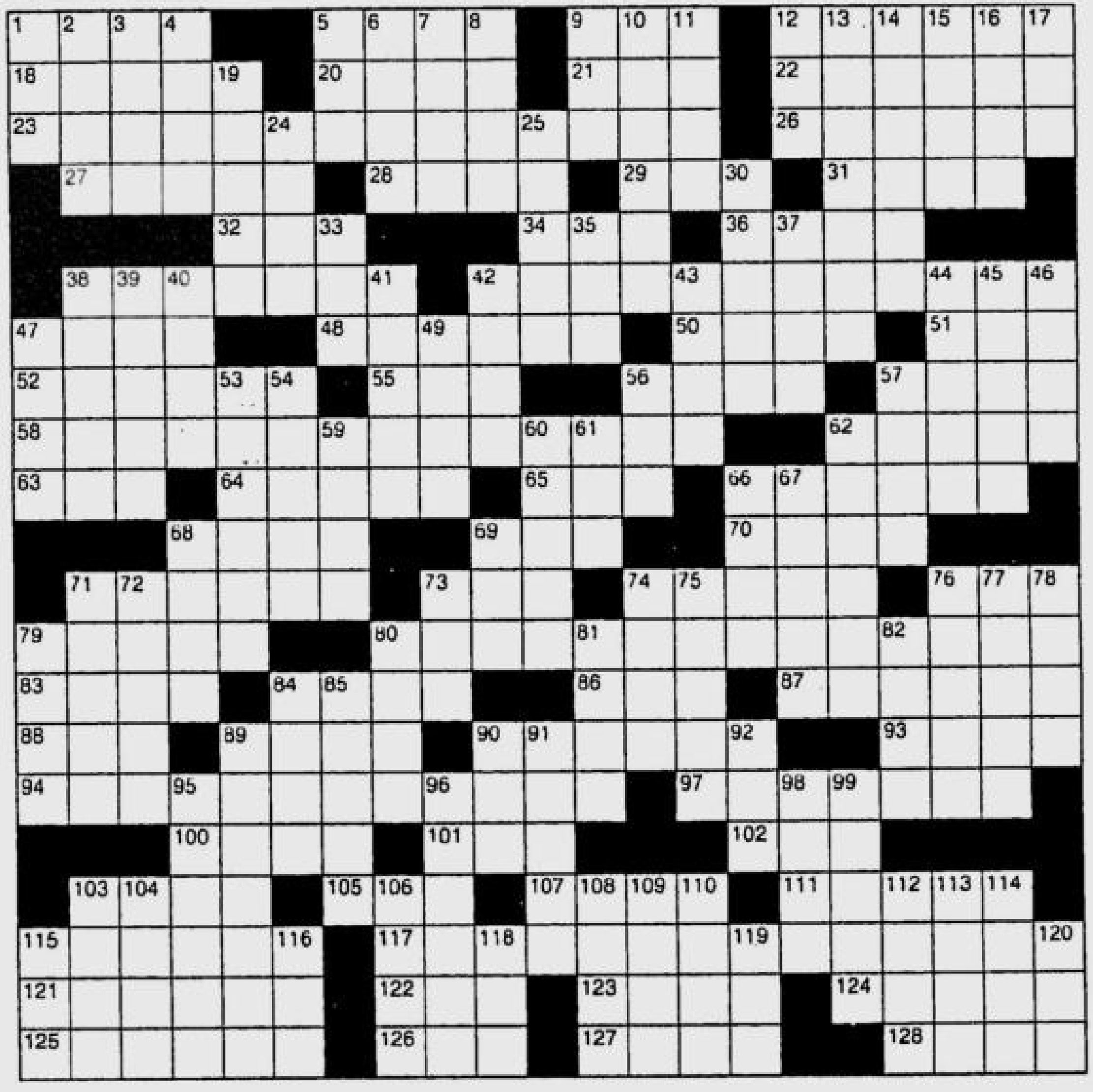
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

I WITNESS



ACROSS
1 Cheryl of "Charlie's Angels"
5 — ghanouj
9 "Sister —" ('92 film)
12 Rodeo ropes
18 "America's Most Wanted" info
20 Panache
21 Chase away gray
22 Changes
23 Start of a remark by Gene Perret
26 Rice dish
27 Tangle
28 Quahog, e.g.
29 Consumed a knish
31 Cart
32 Altar oath
34 Hair ball?
36 "The — Is High" ('80 hit)
38 Hazard
42 Part 2 of remark
47 Bete noire
48 Reserved
50 Mideast gulf
51 Supp.
52 Way in
55 Lend a hand
56 Noah's eldest
57 Cornmeal concoction
58 Part 3 of remark
62 Surround
63 West ender?
64 Greene of "Bonanza"
65 Author LeShan
66 Picturesque
68 — shui
69 Switchboard abbr.
70 Irish island group
71 Asian island
73 Joanne of "Red River"
74 Cavalry weapon
76 Spare part?
79 French dynast
80 Part 4 of remark
83 — of passage
84 University ordeal
86 Family vehicle
87 A hole near the sole
88 Sten relative
89 Profess
90 Walked off with
93 Pickable
94 Part 5 of remark
97 Act like a mirror
100 Dweeb
101 Empower
102 Dernier —
103 Bear's advice
105 Puppy bark
107 Role for Liz
111 Stout
115 Reach
117 End of remark
121 Hispanic
122 Cover the cake
123 The — Brothers
124 Lofty spaces
125 Exchanged
126 Getz's instrument
127 Sammy or Stubby
128 No sweat

DOWN
1 Chou En- —
2 Charity
3 Anthropologist Fossey
4 Arp's art
5 Role for a rat
6 Baldwin of "Malice"
7 Cry like a baby
8 Novelist Seton
9 "Tobacco Road" character
10 Nosy guy?
11 Try out
12 Drink like a dachshund
13 '92 Disney film
14 Audiophile's equipment
15 Ward of "Sisters"
16 French airport
17 Govt. agency
19 Printer's stroke
24 Robert of "Rhapsody in Blue"
25 Fireplace fragment
30 Practice piece
33 Vintage
35 Manipulate
37 Bookkeeping entry
38 Dad-to-be, often
39 Like Machu Picchu
40 Rock hound?
41 Find out
42 Designer Gernreich
43 Cowardly Lion Bert
44 Mother Judd
45 Jerkin
46 Draft animals
47 Movie piglet
49 Boxer Tyson
53 Taciturn
54 Teatime treat
56 Where the gulls are
57 Quaker colonist
59 As a result
60 Link
61 Banned pesticide
62 Cordial
66 "The Thief of Bagdad" star
67 Minos' realm
68 Manumit
69 Misjudge
71 Feltlike fabric
72 Eye-related
73 Singer Shannon
74 Ginger cookie
75 One of the Yokums
76 Antique
77 Like a lummox
78 — the bullet
79 Muck
80 Dupe
81 Roman poet
82 Present
84 Mind,— matter
85 Actor McDowall
89 "Sweet —" (1903 song)
90 Heifer or hen
91 Good speller?
92 Cal. page
95 Like mother-of-pearl, often
96 Llama kin
98 Starting at
99 Neighbor of Niger
103 Christmas-tree topper
104 Singer James
106 Mascagni opera
108 Plumbing problem
109 "Cope Book" aunt
110 Heed
112 Punta del —
113 Blood components
114 "— Coming" ('69 song)
115 Cockpit fig.
116 Head motion
118 John Ritter's dad
119 Language suffix
120 Weldon or Wray

ANSWER ON PAGE D6

Impeachment emoticons

(Exhibit Septuple K as previously marked)

HERE, Your Honors, are indubitable proof that we, incorrigible kibitzers, have something to show for our kibitzing, and our devoted following of the impeachment hearings.

This exhibit is being submitted for the *inspekshen* and *eksamineyshen* of Senator-Judge Miriam Defensor-Santiago, sole arbiter of court decorum, so that after *daysekshen* and *delibereyshen*, she will be in possession of the truth and nothing but the truth, so help her, oh please, help her, God.

:-)	The presiding officer when he's in a light mood in the beginning of the day's impeachment trial
8-)	Davide when the impeachment trial is finally over
:-{/	Erap with the trademark moustache and in the "*pupulutin sa kangkungan*" fighting mood
=: -(	A witness who fears for his/her life
=:-{/	Erap after the Clarissa Ocampo testimony
:-D	John Osmeña after receiving his *balato*
:-P	Tessie Oreta after receiving hers
;-(	Enrile asking, "*Ba't ako wala?*"
:-C	Chavit crying foul after Erap gave Bingo 2 Ball to Atong
}:-(	You have managed to confuse the presiding officer
8-o	P500 million in Jose Velarde's account?!?
8-O	P1.2 billion in Velarde's account again?!?
8-(	*Oops, si* Loi *rin*?
;-)	*Pa*-cute Fortun brothers after pulling the Delia Rajas stunt
:-o	Mendoza's *pa*-innocent look when asked what Go and Dichaves were doing in his office
}:-|	Prosecutor after objection is sustained
}: -o	Hell hath no fury like Miriam scorned who, after a colloquy, lashes out at the gallery audience
:-v	The gallery whispering…*sinabi nang bawal mag-salita e! Bawal gumalaw.*
:-|	Hostile witness: "I'm not talking."
	Laarni's David Copperfield act

MME. Myriam Ara (seventh from left), wife of the ambassador of Japan to the Philippines, donated special Christmas gifts in the form of four wheelchairs to the children of Chosen Children Village (CCV) represented by Mr. and Ms Ron Fullerton (fifth and sixth from left). Funds for the donation were raised by the wives of Japanese diplomats through activities such as recycling programs and biannual garage sales. Aside from CCV, the 30-member wives' group has been donating to institutions such as Tahanang Walang Hagdanan and Baguio Philippine-Japan Foundation since 1990.

MARTIN NIEVERA
XV3 THE AFTERSHOCK
CROSSOVER LIVE TOUR

Saturday, January 20, 2001, 8:00 p.m.
GRAND BALLROOM, WATERFRONT HOTEL, LAHUG, CEBU CITY
Saturday, January 27, 2001, 8:00 p.m.
LA SALLE COLISEUM, BACOLOD CITY
Saturday, February 3, 2001, 8:00 p.m.
PSC-PHILSPORTS FOOTBALL FIELD (Formerly ULTRA)
Saturday, February 10, 2001, 8:00 p.m.
BURGOS GYM, ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY, BAGUIO CITY

I just received my first paycheck and all the stores are calling my name. I'm so excited I forgot to reload my celfone, not to mention my wallet, too. But no more jampacked ATMs for me. I've finally figured out a better way to shop.

SMART Money

"With SMART Money, I can reload my SMART celfone and shop all I want even without cash."

Now I can walk into any store without cash and still buy what I want. All I need is my SMART Money and my SMART celfone. From the convenience of my celfone I just load my SMART Money Card through SMART Mobile Banking or at any SMART Money loading center — and I'm ready! Aside from loading call and text credits to my SMART Buddy, I can also use it to make purchases in stores that don't normally accept credit cards like tiangges, fastfood chains and beauty shops. Not to mention all MasterCard Electronic establishments nationwide.

SMART Money
SMART
MasterCard Electronic
Load it up. Live it up.
1oo
2abc
3def
4ghi
5jkl
6mno
7pqrs

Activate your SMART Money MasterCard and we'll load it with

P200 FREE!

Spend it anyway you want!

Hurry! This offer is good only up to Jan. 31, 2001

PROMO MECHANICS

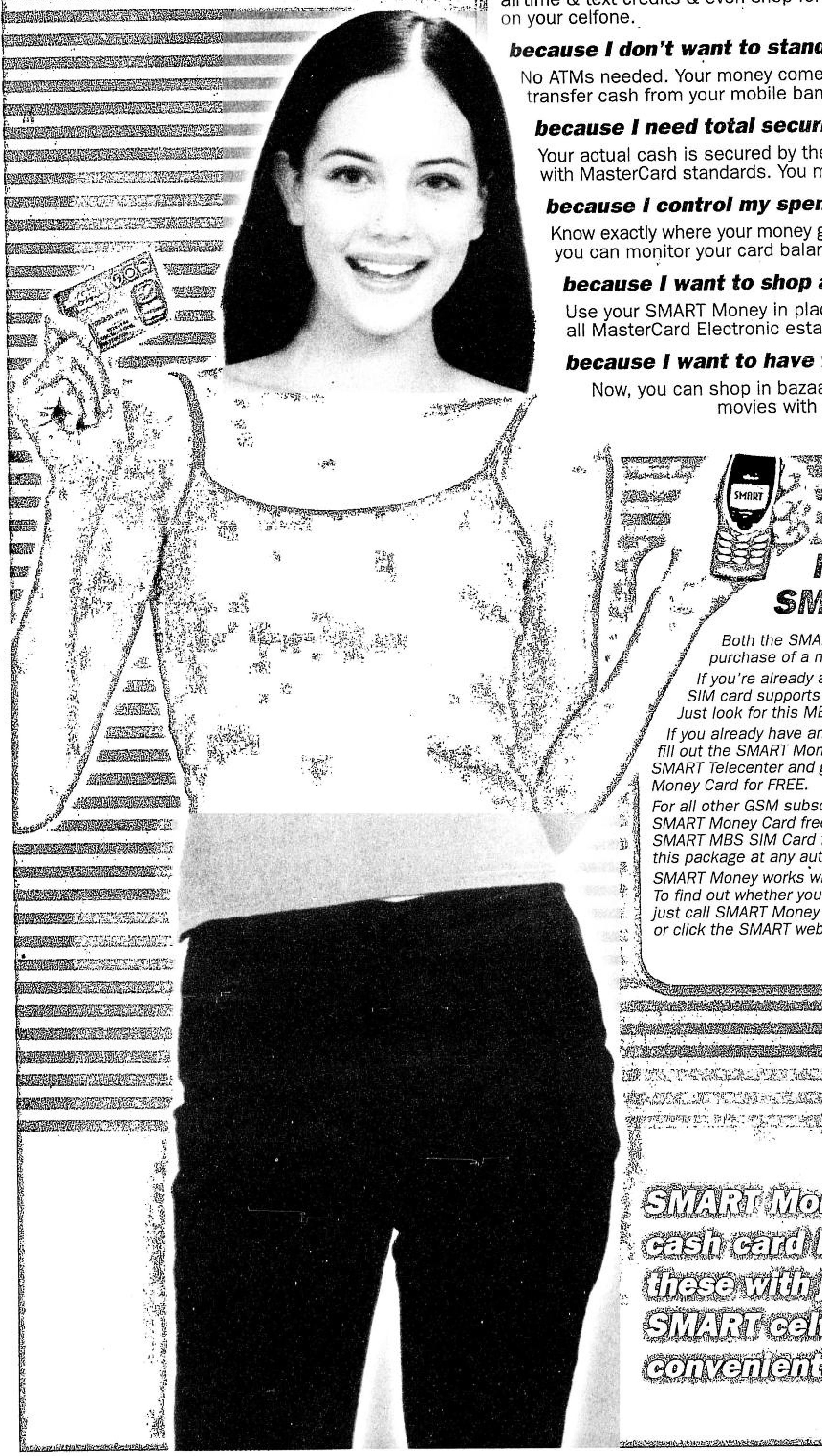
1. *If your SMART Buddy celfone came with the complete SMART Money MBS SIM and FREE SMART Money MasterCard, all you have to do is activate your SMART Money MasterCard.*
2. *If your SMART Buddy celfone already has the SMART Money MBS SIM card, just visit the nearest SMART Telecenter to get the SMART Money MasterCard for FREE by presenting your SMART Money MBS SIM card.*
3. ***HOW TO ACTIVATE YOUR SMART MONEY MasterCard:***
   - a. *Go to SMART MENU and select SMART MONEY.*
   - b. *Key-in your 12-digit MCOM number (printed on your card) and press OK.*
   - c. *Key in your default wireless PIN (W-PIN): 123456 and press OK.*
   - d. *You will receive a confirmation message and be advised to change your W-PIN to activate your card.*
4. *All SMART Money MasterCards to be activated from January 10-31, 2001 shall be credited with Two Hundred Pesos (Php200.00) on the account 24 hours from activation.*
5. *Activation of the SMART Money MasterCard refers to the initialization of the SMART Money MasterCard with the SMART Mobile Phone prior to use as described in the SMART Money MasterCard User's Guide.*
6. *Once the Php200 value has been credited to his SMART Money MasterCard account, the cardholder will be notified via an SMS message in his SMART celfone regarding the credit of such.*
7. ***HOW TO USE YOUR SMART MONEY MasterCard:***
   Face-to-Face (in-store) Purchase
   - a. *To make an in-store purchasing (face-to-face), just present your SMART Money MasterCard to the store cashier for payment of selected merchandise.*
   - b. *Cashier swipes the SMART Money MasterCard in the POS terminal and keys in the purchase amount.*
   - c. *If transaction is approved, message is sent to POS terminal and the sales slip is printed.*
   - d. *Sign on the dotted line and you're off!*
   - e. *You will receive a text confirmation of your transaction.*

   Non face-to-face (remote) Purchase
   - a. *Call the store to order items, advise the order taker that you will be paying through SMART Money MasterCard.*
   - b. *Give the order taker your 12-digit MCOM number.*
   - c. *If transaction is validated, a payment request message is sent to your celfone.*
   - d. *To accept payment request, press ACCEPT, key in your W-PIN and press OK. To cancel the transaction, click on REJECT.*
   - e. *System validates your W-PIN, account status, and SMART Money funds. If details are validated, your SMART Money MasterCard account is debited.*
   - f. *You will receive a text message to acknowledge your transaction.*

   Transfer value to another SMART Money MasterCard
   - a. *Go to SMART MENU and select SMART MONEY.*
   - b. *From SMART MONEY menu, click on TRANSFER.*
   - c. *Key in the 12-digit MCOM number of the recipient party and press OK.*
   - d. *Select a preset amount and press OK.*
   - e. *Key in your W-PIN and press OK.*
   - f. *The SMART Money MasterCard system verifies your W-PIN, account status, and SMART Money MasterCard funds. If details are validated, your SMART Money MasterCard account will then be debited and the value is transferred to the recipient.*
   - g. *Both you and the recipient will receive a text message confirming the amount successfully transferred and your updated balances.*
8. *Only one (1) SMART Money MasterCard may be activated with a specific SMART Money MBS SIM card.*
9. *Cardholders who avail of two or more SMART Money MBS SIMs may be provided with the same number of SMART Money MasterCards. In such cases, they may activate all cards and qualify to avail more than once.*
10. *The FREE Php 200 promo does not apply to SMART Money MasterCard Extension cardholders, whose cards are issued on behalf of the Principal cardholder and may not in any manner be linked to the SMART celfone.*
11. *Promo period is valid until January 31, 2001.*
12. *SMART Communications and FIRST e-Bank reserves the right not to credit the Php200 amount to SMART Money MasterCard accounts it deems unfit, such as but not limited to, stolen/lost cards.*

Per DTI-NCR permit # 0016. Series of 2001.

All I need to know about my SMART Money



why should I get one?

because I want a cash card that lets me reload my celfone and shop from anywhere, hassle-free!

With SMART Money, you can conveniently reload your SMART Buddy celfone airtime & text credits & even shop for whatever you want with just a few clicks on your celfone.

because I don't want to stand in line for cash.

No ATMs needed. Your money comes to you. Using your celfone, you can transfer cash from your mobile bank account right into your SMART Money.

because I need total security.

Your actual cash is secured by the SMART Money system that complies with MasterCard standards. You might lose your card, but never your money.

because I control my spending.

Know exactly where your money goes. With SMART Money and your celfone, you can monitor your card balance and track your purchases.

because I want to shop anywhere.

Use your SMART Money in places that don't accept credit cards and in all MasterCard Electronic establishments nationwide.

because I want to have fun.

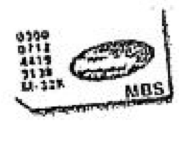
Now, you can shop in bazaars, play in arcades & watch your favorite movies with SMART Money!

how do I get my SMART Money?

Both the SMART Money SIM and cash card come free with the purchase of a new SMART celfone kit.

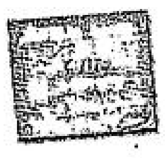
If you're already a SMART GSM subscriber, you can check if your SIM card supports SMART Money.

Just look for this MBS marking at the back of the SIM:



If you already have an MBS SIM, simply fill out the SMART Money info sheet at any SMART Telecenter and get your SMART Money Card for FREE.

For all other GSM subscribers, you can get the SMART Money Card free when you upgrade to a SMART MBS SIM Card for only P990. Simply look for this package at any authorized SMART dealer:



SMART Money works with a phase 2 plus celfone.

To find out whether your handset is a phase 2 plus celfone, just call SMART Money Hotline at 845-7777, visit any SMART Telecenter or click the SMART website at www.smart.com.ph.

NO NEED TO APPLY!

SMART Money's unique celfone and cash card linkage lets you enjoy all these with just a few clicks from your SMART celfone! It's simply the most convenient way to pay!

SMART Money

how do I use my SMART Money?

TO ENJOY YOUR SMART MONEY FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

How do I activate my cash card?

step 1
Go to SMART MENU and select SMART MONEY.

step 2
Key in your 12-digit MCOM number found on your SMART Money card and press OK.

step 3
Key in your default W-PIN (123456) and press OK.

step 4
You will receive a confirmation message and be advised to change your W-PIN to protect your SMART Money.

How do I load cash into my SMART Money?

To reload over the counter:

step 1
You can put any amount in your SMART Money card through SMART Money Loading Centers.

step 2
Upon receiving cash, the cashier swipes your card and gives you a transaction record.

step 3
Now your SMART Money is loaded and you're ready to go! For maximum reloading convenience, use your celfone to load cash in your SMART Money card straight from your Mobile Bank Account.

How do I load airtime and text credits on my SMART Buddy celfone?

step 1
Go to the SMART MENU and select SMART BUDDY.

step 2
Select RELOAD and press OK.

step 3
If you want to reload your own SMART Buddy celfone, select MY BUDDY and press OK. If you want to reload another celfone, select OTHERS, key in the recipient's SMART Buddy celfone number and press OK.

step 4
Key in your W-PIN and press OK.

step 5
You and the recipient will receive a text message confirming the amount successfully loaded.

how do I make a purchase?

Your card must be activated and loaded with cash value before it can be used to purchase goods and services. Simply present your SMART Money to the cashier. The cashier swipes your SMART Money and you'll receive a sales slip. Sign it, and you're off!

For deliveries, simply call the store, place your orders and give your MCOM number. You'll then receive a text message to confirm your purchase. Authorize your transaction with your W-PIN and you're done!

SMART Money

Mobile Banking + SMART Money. The future of payment.

Enjoy the full convenience of SMART Money with SMART's Mobile Banking service. When your SMART Money card is supported by SMART Mobile Banking, you can load cash value into your SMART Money—right from your celfone! It's like having your own personal ATM—anytime, anywhere!

how do I load SMART Money thru SMART Mobile Banking?

You have to be a registered Mobile Banking depositor of any of the member banks in the SMART Mobile Banking Service.

1. Using a SMART GSM celfone, go to SMART Menu and select SMART Money.
2. Click Reload.
3. Choose an amount.
4. Key-in the M-PIN code of your Mobile Bank account.
5. You will receive a text confirmation and you're done!

The SMART Mobile Banking Service members are: 1st e-Bank, Dao Heng Bank, East West Bank, Equitable-PCI Bank, Export & Industry Bank, Global Bank, International Exchange Bank, Metrobank, Planters Development Bank, Premiere Development Bank and Union Bank.

Ask your bank about Mobile Banking for SMART Money reloading now!

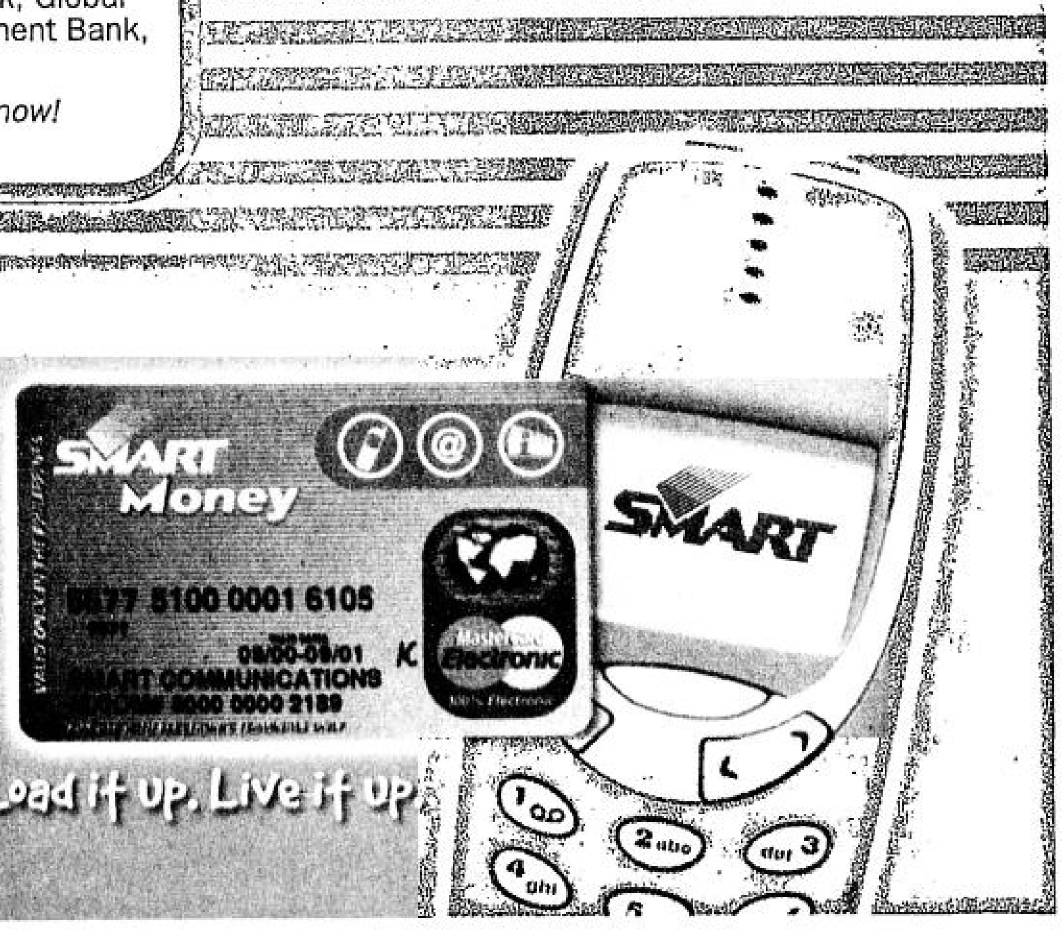
Get the most out of your SMART Money SIM card!

YOUR OWN VIRTUAL PET.
You will never shop alone again! With your new SMART Money SIM comes your own virtual pet that you can take everywhere!

MORE SURPRISES.
Personalize your SMART Money Card & you can join the Rewards Program. Earn points and exchange these for prepaid airtime, text credits & more!

Grab your SMART Money now!

*For more information, call SMART Money hotline at **845-7777** or visit our website at www.smart.com.ph.*

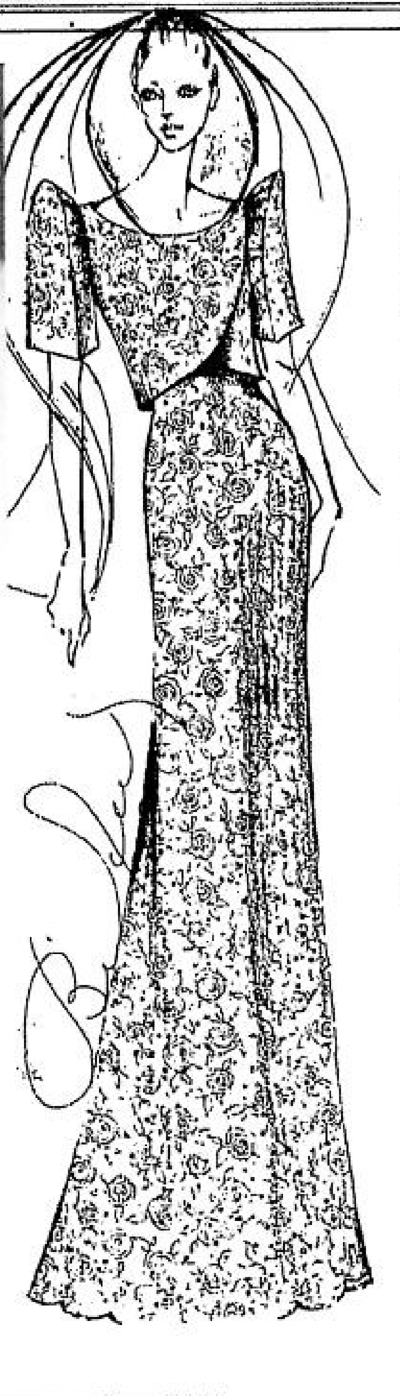


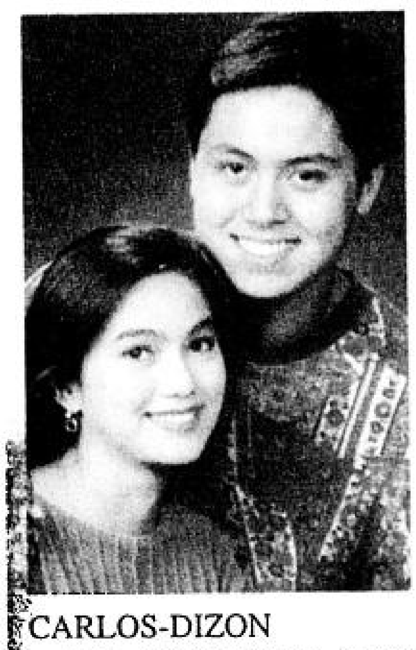
Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

GONZALES ANNIVERSARY

Nolasco and **Hermogena Gonzales** will be celebrating their golden anniversary on Jan. 28, 5:30 p.m. at Basilica of the Immaculate Concepcion, Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel. **Ben Farrales** designs the bride's gown.





CARLOS-DIZON

Juan Antonio Carlos, son of lawyer **Vicente Jacinto Carlos** and **Maria Cristina Torres Carlos**, ties the knot with **Sheila Marie Dizon**, daughter of **Demetrio Castro Dizon** and **Jessica Bañares Dizon**, today at Santuario de San Antonio Church, Forbes Park, Makati City. Reception follows at the Main Lounge of the Manila Polo Club, McKinley Road, Forbes Park.

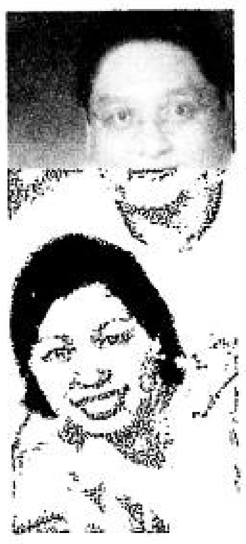
SUNGA-VITTO

Cindy M. Vitto and **Edwin E. Sunga** exchanged "I dos" on Dec. 27 at the Ina ng Laging Saklolo Parish in Barangay Sungay, Tagaytay City.

The bride, a travel consultant based in Los Angeles, California, is the daughter of Mr. and Ms **Jose Vitto** of Tagaytay City and California, USA, while the groom, who works in an information technology firm in New Jersey, is the son of Mr. and Ms **Sotero Sunga** of Valenzuela, Bulacan and New Jersey, USA.

MITRA-CHAN

Rhonell Mitra and **Renee Chan** recently exchanged solemn vows in a wedding ceremony held at the Cosmopolitan Church. Rhonell is the eldest child of **Salvador** and **Anita Mitra**. He works as a pastry chef of the Manila Diamond Hotel. Renee is the youngest child of **Robert** and **Betty Chan**. She works overseas as a supervisor of Dairy Queen in Richmond British Columbia where she has been residing for seven years now. The reception was held at the Galaxias Ballroom of the Manila Diamond Hotel.

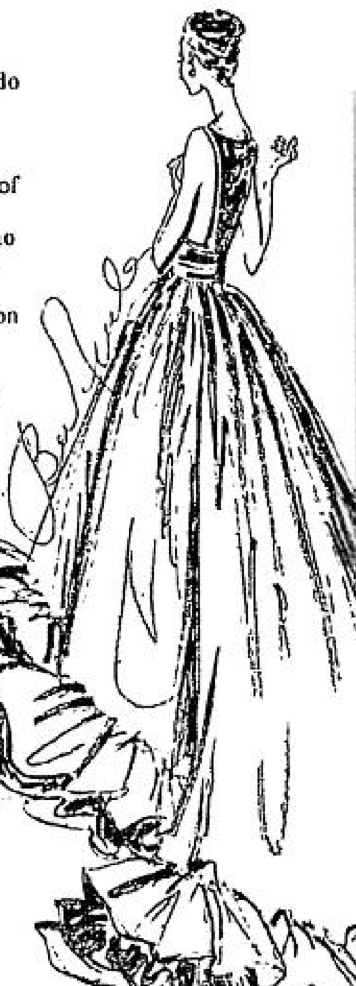


LAUREANO-DUMLAO

Dennis A. Laureano, son of Mr. and Ms **Rolando L. Laureano** of Lucena City, wed **Ma. Hazel B. Dumlao**, daughter of lawyer and Ms **Marcelo L. Dumlao** of Isabela, on Dec. 19 at the Manila Cathedral. Reception followed at the Baluarte de San Diego, Intramuros.

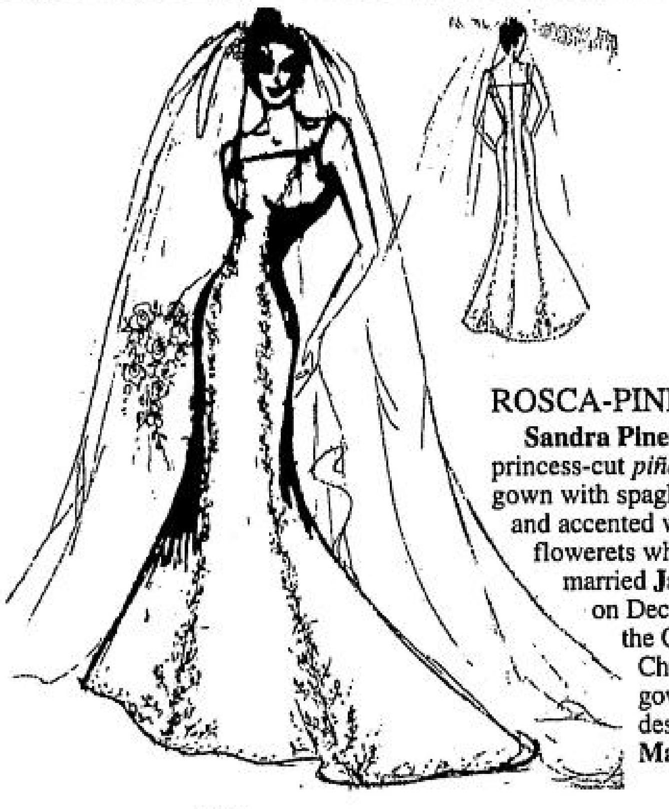
LACNO-BALITON

Marita O. Baliton and **Anthony H. Lacno** tied the knot on Dec. 19 at the Our Lady of Remedies Church in Malate. The bride is the daughter of **Ernesto** and **Aurea Baliton**, while the groom is the son of **Jesus** and **Rosalinda Lacno**. Principal sponsors were **Jovenal Alesna**, **Erlinda Castor**, **Armand Mejia**, **Lily Muceros**, Capt. **Joaquin Tan**, **Susan Penserga**, **Emmanuel Torralba**, **Julia Torres**, **Waynefred Villarba** and **Florentina Villarba**. The wedding gown was designed by **Tony Cajucom**.



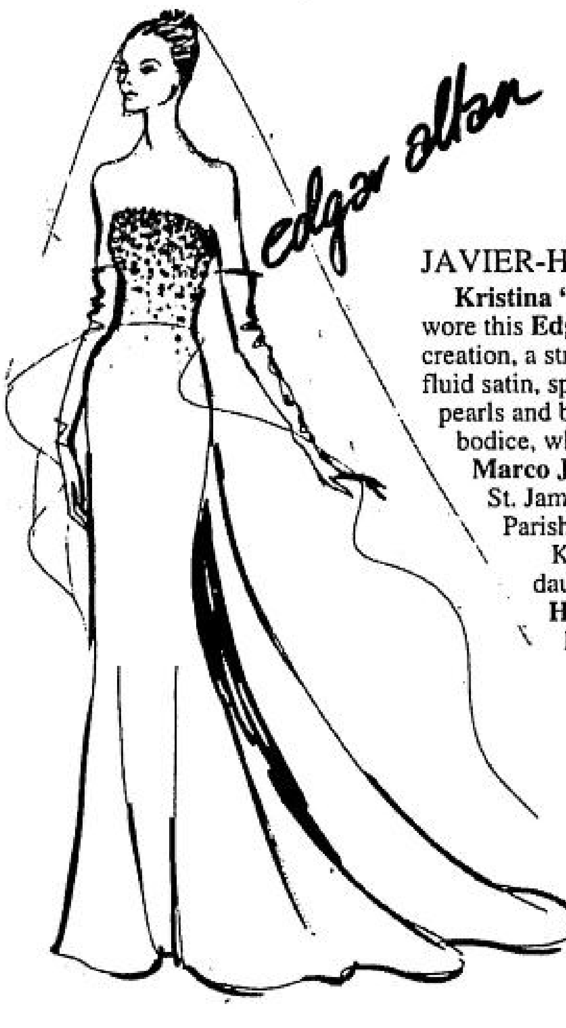
ALUMISIN DEBUT

Candice Magdalene Alumisin, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Homer Alumisin**, will be celebrating her 18th birthday on Jan.19 at the Rigodon Ballroom of the Peninsula Manila. She will be wearing a **Ben Farrales** creation.



ROSCA-PINEDA

Sandra Pineda wore this princess-cut *piña* wedding gown with spaghetti straps and accented with beaded flowerets when she married **Jason Rosca** on Dec. 12 at Mary the Queen Parish Church. The gown was designed by **Malu Veloso**.



JAVIER-HIDALGO

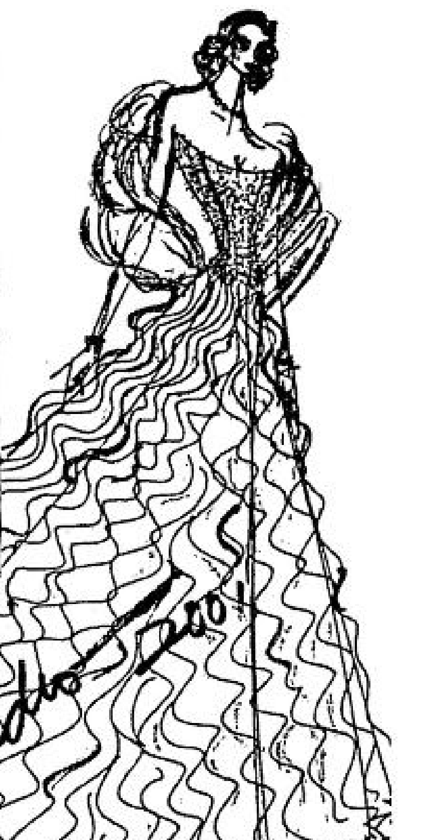
Kristina "Tinnie" Hidalgo wore this **Edgar Allan** creation, a strapless gown in fluid satin, sprinkled with pearls and beads on the bodice, when she wed **Marco Javier** on Jan. 6 at St. James the Great Parish, Ayala Alabang. Kristina is the daughter of **Marilou Harrington**, while Marco is the son of Mr. and Ms **Marcelo Javier Jr.**

Baddeo dresses up Bulacan club muse

THE HO-RATA Club of San Ildefonso, Bulacan will celebrate their annual gathering, headed by its president, Jun Bautista, on Jan. 20. Crowned Miss Ayala Heights and 1999 Star Face of the Year finalist, Katherine Rose Herrera Tolome will be this year's muse of the club.

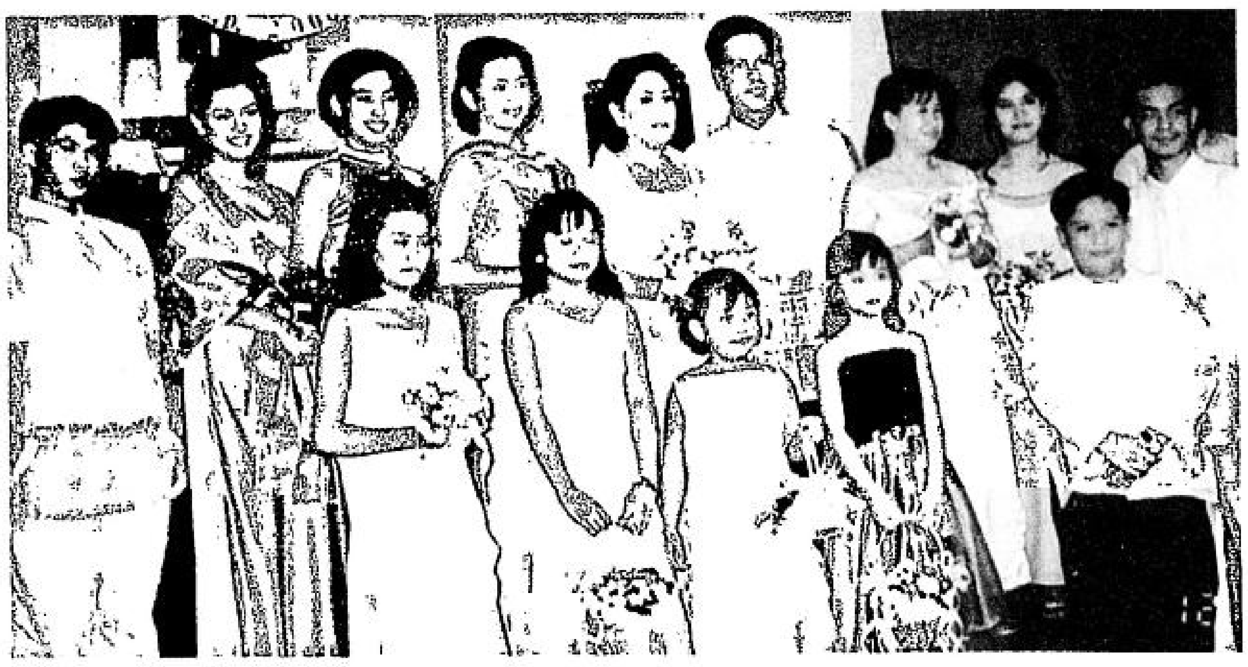
She's the daughter of Manuel R. Tolome and the former Rebecca C. Herrera. Kaye is a 20-year-old senior economic student at UP Diliman. She loves painting, reading and aims to pursue a business career and be successful when she reaches the age of 26.

Stylist Eric Maningat will do her hair and makeup. She will wear an off-white, strapless princess-cut gown of heavy glossy charmeuse and illusion tulle materials with bodice embellished with caviar, pearls, round and cut beads in monochromatic colors of lavender and silver. Skirt will be yards of yards of illusion tulle made in circular bias ruffles from hips to hemline. The gown is an Eddie Baddeo creation.



PANAHON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Ms **Benigno Elizaga Panahon Sr.** (née **Rosario Saa de Asis**) renewed their matrimonial vows when they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 2. Ceremonies were solemnized by Msgr. **Warlito I. Cajindig** at the Calapan Cathedral, Calapan City. Reception followed at the Alfonso Umali Memorial Gymnasium, Lemnahis, Calapan City.

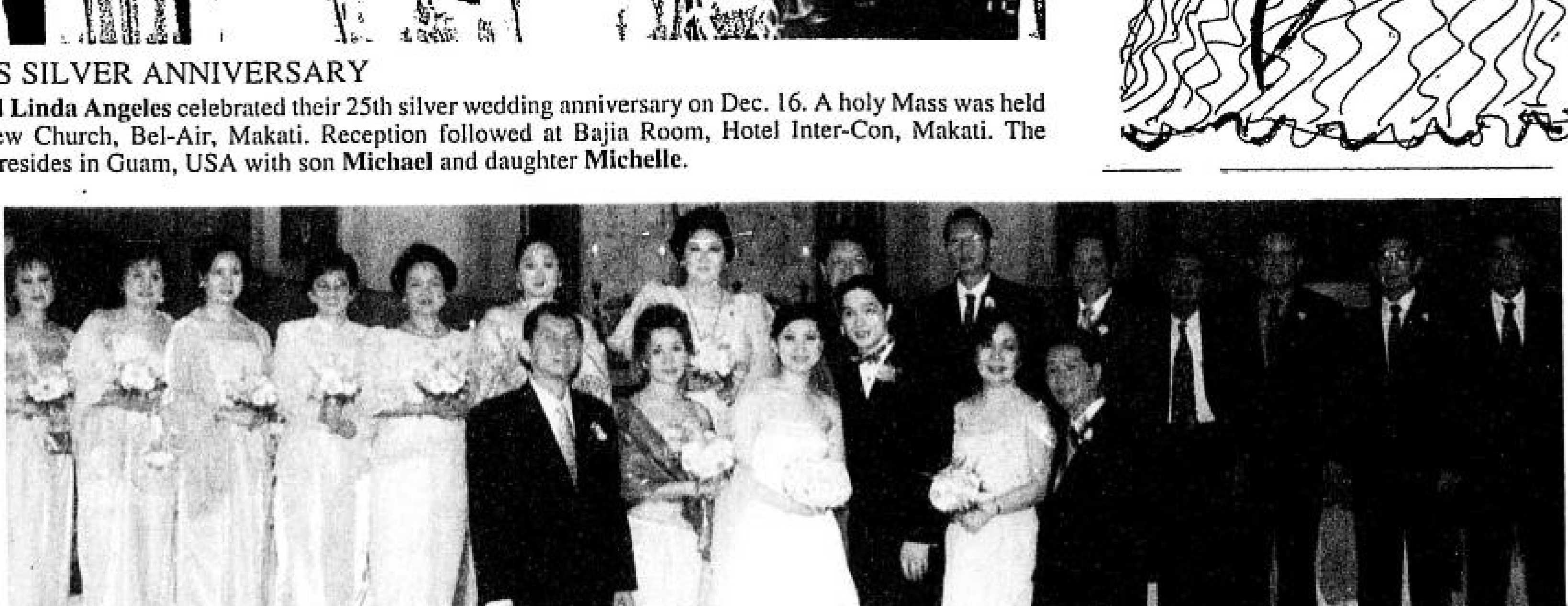


ANGELES SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Rolly and **Linda Angeles** celebrated their 25th silver wedding anniversary on Dec. 16. A holy Mass was held at St. Andrew Church, Bel-Air, Makati. Reception followed at Bajia Room, Hotel Inter-Con, Makati. The couple now resides in Guam, USA with son **Michael** and daughter **Michelle**.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

L	A	D	D	■	■	B	A	B	A	■	A	C	T	■	L	A	S	S	O	S
A	L	I	A	S	■	E	L	A	N	■	D	Y	E	■	A	L	T	E	R	S
I	M	A	D	E	A	N	E	W	Y	E	A	R	S	■	P	A	E	L	L	A
■	S	N	A	R	L	■	C	L	A	M	■	A	T	E	■	D	R	A	Y	■
■	■	■	■	I	D	O	■	■	■	B	U	N	■	T	I	D	E	■	■	■
■	P	I	T	F	A	L	L	■	R	E	S	O	L	U	T	I	O	N	T	O
B	A	N	E	■	■	D	E	M	U	R	E	■	A	D	E	N	■	A	U	X
A	C	C	E	S	S	■	A	I	D	■	■	S	H	E	M	■	P	O	N	E
B	E	A	N	I	C	E	R	K	I	N	D	E	R	■	■	H	E	M	I	N
E	R	N	■	L	O	R	N	E	■	E	D	A	■	S	C	E	N	I	C	■
■	■	■	F	E	N	G	■	■	E	X	T	■	■	A	R	A	N	■	■	■
■	B	O	R	N	E	O	■	D	R	U	■	S	A	B	E	R	■	R	I	B
C	A	P	E	T	■	■	P	E	R	S	O	N	B	U	T	T	H	E	N	I
R	I	T	E	■	O	R	A	L	■	■	V	A	N	■	E	Y	E	L	E	T
U	Z	I	■	A	V	O	W	■	S	W	I	P	E	D	■	■	R	I	P	E
D	E	C	I	D	E	D	N	A	H	I	D	■	R	E	F	L	E	C	T	■
■	■	■	N	E	R	D	■	L	E	T	■	■	■	C	R	I	■	■	■	■
■	S	E	L	L	■	Y	I	P	■	C	L	E	O	■	O	B	E	S	E	■
A	T	T	A	I	N	■	R	A	T	H	E	R	B	E	M	Y	S	E	L	F
L	A	T	I	N	O	■	I	C	E	■	A	M	E	S	■	A	T	R	I	A
T	R	A	D	E	D	■	S	A	X	■	K	A	Y	E	■	■	E	A	S	Y



CHENG-UY

Jerome Cheng wed **Marjorie Uy** on Oct. 15 at the Manila Cathedral. They are shown with their parents and principal sponsors: (front row, from left) **Jose** and **Mary Uy**, **Emiliana** and **Gregory Cheng**; (back row) **Mila Toh**, **Beauty Sy**, **Elizabeth Ang**, **Teresita Ang See**, **Virginia Trinidad**, Sen. **Anna Dominique Coseteng**, **Imelda Marcos**, **Silvestre Bello III**, **Antonio Tan**, Judge **Leonardo Leonida**, Col. **Macedonio Nonesa**, **Murphy Chu**, **Joaquin Dee** and **Eduardo Chua**.

Armani marks 25 years; Elsa Klensch leaves from 'Style'; what's hot in 2001

Trends & Trendings

BY ANTON SAN DIEGO

MUST-HAVE book—"Giorgio Armani." Who doesn't know **Giorgio Armani**? This year, he celebrates 25 years of revolutionizing fashion and design via an exhibition at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, and with a lavishly elegant new book. Armani has been credited with a lot of things, including changing the rules of contemporary fashion.

The book has illustrations, including fashion pictorials and advertising shots and new, specially commissioned photographs. One can view all the works of the master and his evolution as one of the world's best designers.

Celebrated personalities from the worlds of fashion, film, art and design comment on the scope of Armani's achievement. In addition, personal photographs of Armani's houses and travels offer an intimate look at the man behind the fashion legend.

The horsey set—Lone Ranger rides again. I have always wanted to be an equestrian. When I was about 14 years old, I enrolled at the D'Rossa riding school. There's something about riding a horse, the freedom and the elegance of it all.

Actually, I was even more excited getting my riding attire: helmet, whip, boots and jodhpurs. So excited that when I went up to Baguio I wore them atop those horses that looked like overgrown dogs.

Of course, everyone was staring at me, especially since my legs were almost touching the ground and I was wearing this outfit. Nevertheless, I relented.

So there I was taking the scenic route in picturesque Baguio City, going to Marlboro country, Mines View Park, etc. In D'Rossa they taught me things that may come in handy when you are riding a horse, like adjusting the saddle strap while riding.

Well, through some genius on my part I decided to do just that. In the riding school you are in a controlled environment, but in Baguio you're left on your own to do as you will.

As I was adjusting the strap, my sister and cousins decided to race back to Burnham Park with their horses. The Baguio horses are a bit smart. When they see one horse run they follow suit.

So when my horse decided to run, excuse me canter, I had adjusted the saddle too loosely. All of a sudden I am riding the horse sideways on the streets of Baguio, and because of my weight, he falls on top of me.

MUST-HAVE BOOK—"Giorgio Armani Retrospective"

THE FIRST LADY OF STYLE NO MORE—Elsa Klensch

PRESIDENTIAL MISTRESS. In: Dovie Beams

OUT: Laarni Enriquez

The horse gets up and canters on while I pass the Mansion House chasing this dog. I mean horse all the way to the park. Everyone was laughing at me since I was wearing a riding outfit, the grooms and maybe even the horse.

Nevertheless, I still wanted to be an equestrian. I enrolled in **Nise Yabut-Cojuangco's** school in Sta. Ana (post-Polo, pre-Alabang days) and there I was "properly" trained. **Chi Chi Silverio** used to teach us and my classmates were siblings **Stuart and Claudia (Tambunting) Wilson, Becca and Jessica Dosch, Ning Ning Lesaca (Tordesillas), KP Panlilio (Craig).** We had so much fun.

I joined my first jumping competition in Clark when I was there. I was so excited. My horse was very good, so good it would jump all obstacles. When it was my turn to go, I felt the horse was too highly strung so I dropped my whip. We made it to all the jumps except for the last two. I didn't win but was happy I participated.

When I got home, someone gave me a copy of the competition. Excitedly, I played it on the Betamax (that's what it was called then) and proceeded to watch. The film was good except the one who filmed the event was interested in looking at the audience and trees. I only saw the beginning and part of the end of my jump.

But the commentary was incredibly sarcastic! It went like this: "*Ang tabataba naman niya kawawa ang kabayo.*" And, "Wow, he got through the first jump." Other comments were: "*Ang pangit naman nang pantalon niya* jodhpurs *ba iyan?*" (They were right. I forgot my jodhpurs and had to wear regular pleated cotton pants—yuck!). "Why did he drop his whip, I am not going to pick it up" and "I knew he wouldn't make it. Let's just say he did well." And those came from the peanut gallery, friends in the horsey set, not from my riding school.

I retired from my dream of equestrian glory right after that, not because of their comments but because I was off to college. I haven't gotten the courage to ride since it's been awhile. I am psyching myself up that like the Lone Ranger, I may decide to ride again, but definitely not in Baguio.

Style disappears. Everyone knows her as the first lady of style and as one of the most powerful fashion figures in the last decade. Her trademark bob and lilting voice are a staple for every fashionista and CNN viewer.

Elsa Klensch is leaving her show. Although press releases say otherwise, talk has it that the show "Style" is being cancelled and the reason is due to high production costs. Other juicy tidbits include that it "failed to keep up with other fashion TV shows, Internet and magazines." Likewise, critics dismiss the program as "boring," "serious" or "rigid."

There are some who are glad to see Klensch go because she is widely reported to be hot-tempered and diva-esque. She is a feared fashion figure, has complained bitterly about "crowds" at the fashion shows and even "thrown a chair" at someone. Many say her habit of taking herself and fashion too seriously is strictly old school.

So what happens next? Honestly, although she may not have the same elegance as dear Elsa, I think the irreverent, in-your-face style of **Lauren Ezersky** would be a welcome sight.

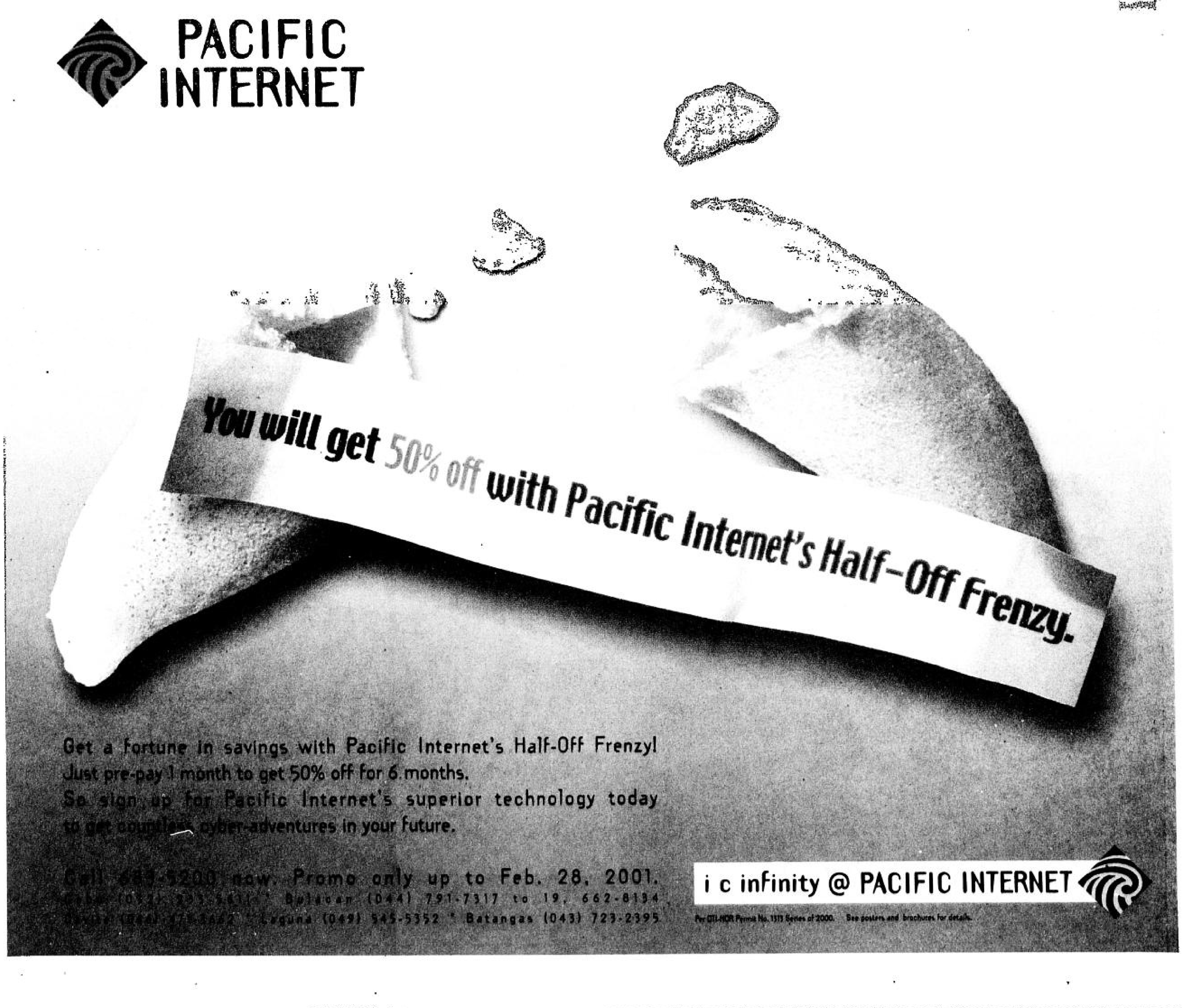
What's Hot/What's Not in 2001. Making pronouncements are hard, especially if they don't come true, but someone's got to do them. Here's a list of what is and will be hot and what's not this coming year.

IN	OUT
Actor: Eddie Garcia	Ramon Revilla
Actress: Vilma Santos	Nora Aunor,
Singers: Gary V, Lani Misalucha, Bituin Escalante	Rappers
Travel: Bangkok	Hong Kong
Religious figure: Fr. Robert Reyes	Fr. Sonny Ramirez
Accent: Natural	Miriam's half-American, half-Visayan accent
Place to be seen: Pro-democracy rallies	Malacañang
Who to be seen with: Young socialites	Starlets
Word: Impeachment, your Honor	Gobbledygook and colloquy
Night Out: Rockwell	The Fort
Senators: Loren Legarda-Leviste, Serge Osmeña and Raul Roco	Tessie Aquino-Oreta, Blas Ople and Miriam Santiago
Heroes: Manny Villar and Franklin Drilon	Andres Narvasa
Money: Being liquid	Being in debt
Sex Aids: Pure love	Viagra
Drugs: Tylenol	Ecstacy
Bags: Hermes Birkin	Fendi baguette
TV show: "Survivor" and "Sex and the City"	Anything on Channel 4
Athletic wear: Nike and New Balance	Converse
Jewelry: Pearls	Yellow gold (On some Filipinos, they create the hepatitic look)
Makeup: Light-reflecting makeup	Glitter
Fashion: Military chic	Rapper's delight
Vice: Meditating	Smoking and burping loudly
Lawyers: Nani Perez and Joker Arroyo	Fortun brothers, Estelito Mendoza
Attitude: Generosity and humility	Arrogance and being vain
Exercise: Boxing	Ballroom dancing
Senatorial candidates: Katrina Legarda (Hope she runs)	Noli de Castro
Politics: Being convicted	Being acquitted
Newscasters: Tina Monzon-Palma and Vicky Morales	Korina Sanchez and Ted Failon
Event: Being a witness and being thrown out by Miriam	Being in hiding
Presidential mistress: Dovie Beams	Laarni Enriquez (On her way out)

For comments, e-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

WHO/WHAT'S IN/OUT 2001. (Senators) In: Loren Legarda-Leviste

OUT: Tessie Aquino-Oreta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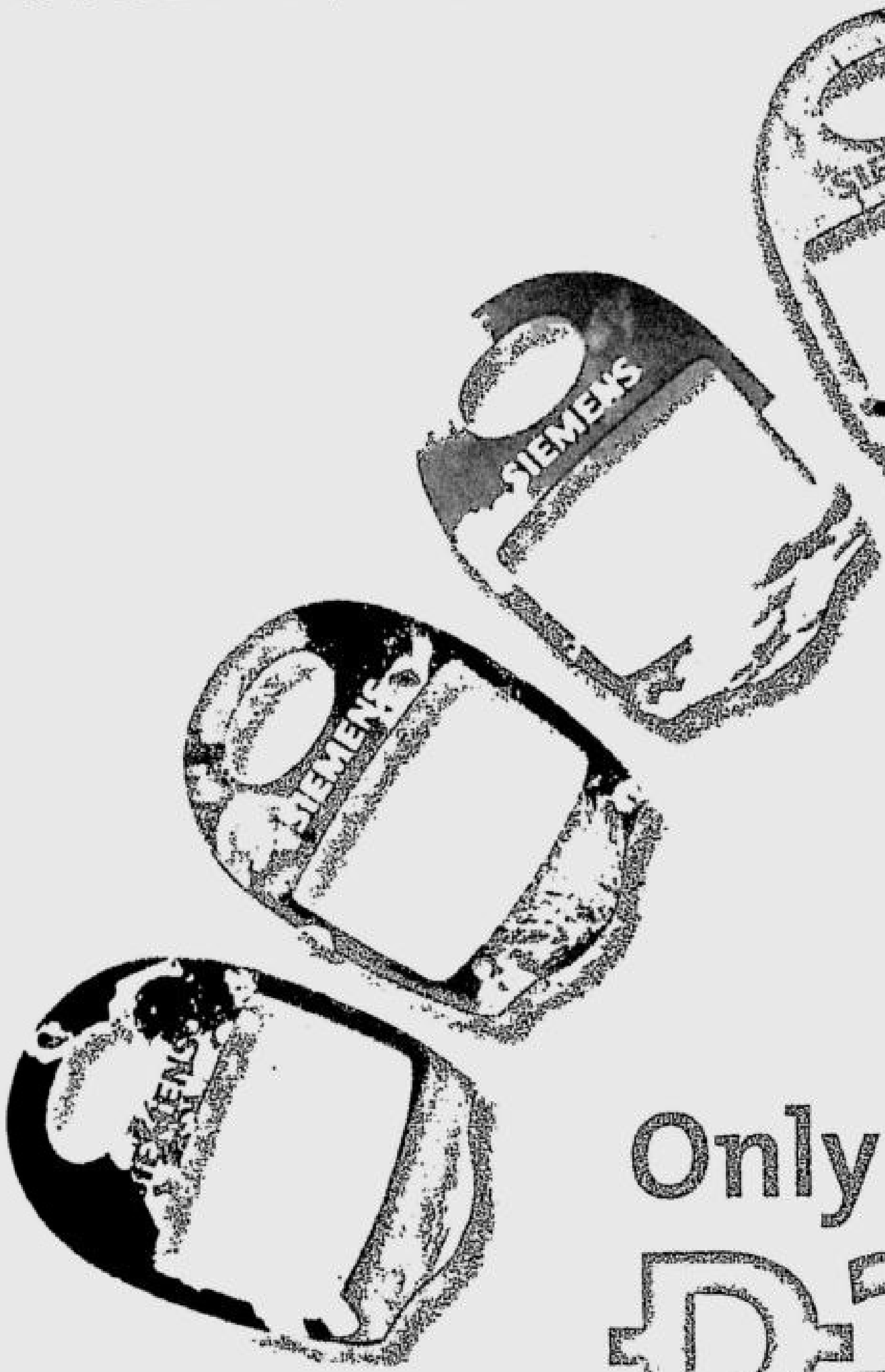
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Professional registration preferred
Exposure in interior architecture preferred
Design-related computer literacy and proficiency preferred
At least 3 years experience required

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Job Code: CAD

He shall be responsible for the production construction and detail working drawings He may undertake design quality control activities during project implementation

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Professional Registration an advantage
Exposure in interior architecture preferred
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CAD portfolio and at least 3 years experience required

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23-28 years old, graduate of a business course. Will be responsible for expanding opportunities with financial institutions for bancassurance programs and assume product development and implementation functions. Must have at least 3 years' experience preferably in the credit card business or other form of direct marketing. Above average project management, organization and communication skills. Highly computer literate.

PR OFFICER/WRITER

25-32 years old, graduate of Journalism, Communication Arts or any business course. Will be tasked to handle public relations functions and oversee the monthly publication of the company's magazine. Experience in writing features and business articles is a must. Must show exemplary oral and written communication and interpersonal skills. Must have contacts with various media institutions. Adept with desktop publishing software packages.

EDP AUDITOR/SPECIALIST

22-30 years old, graduate of Computer Science or Accounting. With at least 2 years of experience in the audit and review of computerized systems, general EDP functions and internal control policies and procedures. Must exhibit general understanding of accounting and control procedures as well as knowledge in data security and operations. Preferably with exposure to AS/400, IBM mainframe systems, LAN and client-server environment.

POS CONSULTANT

20-23 years old, preferably a business course graduate. Will be trained in customer handling and insurance operations. Must be highly trainable and customer-service oriented. Above average oral and written communication skills in English and computer literacy are prerequisites of the job. Fresh graduates from Ateneo, La Salle, UP and UST are preferred.

SALES/MARKETING ASSISTANTS

20-25 years old, graduates of Communication Arts, Psychology or business courses. Will be tasked with product/market development, training, advertising and promotions, sales and after-sales service. Experience gained from insurance (life and non-life) and pre-need companies is a plus. Must exhibit excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills. Willing to travel and do fieldwork. Fresh graduates from reputable schools with above average scholastic records may be considered.

GROUP SERVICING ASSISTANTS

22-25 years old, graduates of Communication Arts or other business courses. Will be tasked with servicing and monitoring of the needs and requirements of corporate accounts. At least 6 months of experience in customer service, sales or marketing is required. Must possess excellent oral and written communication and interpersonal skills. Willing to travel and do fieldwork. Computer literate.

TELEMARKETER

Female, 20-25 years old, graduate of Communication Arts or any business course. With experience in telemarketing. Must have good oral communication skills and knowledgeable of Word and Excel. Willing to initially accept contractual appointment.

SECRETARIES

Female, 21 to 23 years old, four-year business course graduates with at least 1 year experience in handling secretarial functions. Must possess good communication and interpersonal skills. Proficient in using word processing and spreadsheet applications.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL STAFF (5)

20-24 years old, graduates of Accounting or other business courses. Must possess good communication and interpersonal relations skills. Computer literate, organized and detail-oriented.

LAWYER

28-35 years old. Will be responsible for labor and employee relations functions. Must have 2 years of experience in a law firm and exposure to CBA negotiations, employee grievances and labor cases. Should possess excellent written and oral communication skills. Experience in other HR functions will be a plus. Computer literate.

HR OFFICERS/ASSISTANTS

22-28 years old, graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Industrial Engineering. Masteral studies will be a plus. With 3-4 years' experience in the conduct of organizational studies and job evaluation, design of performance appraisal systems and succession planning. Exposure to competency-based HR systems plus newsletter writing and lay-outing will be distinct advantages. Should exhibit exceptional writing and verbal communication abilities and literacy in desktop publishing and MS Office applications.

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS/PROGRAMMERS

Will be tasked to analyze simple to complex problems and design application systems encompassing the modification and/or development of a system. Three years' solid experience in Visual Basic and SQL programming is required. Experience with insurance underwriting and accounting-related systems is an advantage. Graduate of a four-year course from a reputable university, not over 32 years old. With strong analytical, and problem-solving skills. Willing to travel for overseas projects.

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Will support the country implementation process through the creation of database objects, implement multi-platform solutions with regard to database maintenance and implement database security. Minimum of 3 years' experience participating in the conceptual design of new databases and revisions to existing ones. Experience with case tools, SQL or Sybase, OS/2 or UNIX. College degree holder, not over 32 years old.

CLIENT SERVER SPECIALIST

Graduate of Computer Science/Engineering or other related course, not over 35 years old. Equipped with 3 to 5 years of relevant experience. Knowledgeable of client server networking and network operating systems (Windows NT, 9x, UNIX). Knowledge of networking protocols (IBM and/or Cisco) will be an advantage. Able to work with minimum supervision, organized and systematic.

CASUALTY UNDERWRITER

23-28 years old, graduate of Engineering or any business course. Must have at least 2 years' experience in casualty underwriting, marketing and preparation of statistical reports gained from a reputable non-life insurance company. Must be analytical and highly computer literate.

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

Will be tasked to review guidelines, conduct mortality and comparative studies, handle underwriting audit of regional offices, conduct technical training programs and process new business cases. Graduate of Public Health, Biology, Nursing or other paramedical course, ideally from UP, UST, La Salle and Ateneo. Able to develop training modules, create multimedia presentations and conduct training programs. Can conduct research and prepare reports. Oriented towards customer service and highly computer literate.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Female, 21-28 years old, preferably graduates of Nursing, Physical Therapy or other paramedical courses. With experience in providing customer assistance in a clinical setting. Must possess good communication and interpersonal skills. Computer literate.

SHIFTING NURSES & LIAISON OFFICERS

Not over 28 years old, registered Nurse. Preferably with 1 year of relevant experience. Must exhibit positive interpersonal and communication skills. Willing to work long hours. Highly motivated and diligent.

We will offer competitive compensation and benefits packages to the right candidates. Qualified applicants may send their resumés, transcript of records and photos to the indicated address not later than 26 January 2001. You may also send YOUR RESUMÉS ONLY via e-mail at Philamlife-HR.Recruitment@aig.com.

CORPORATE HR
PO Box 2167, Manila, Philippines

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.ephilam.com

UBX

U-BIX CORPORATION, a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, has openings for ---

SALES MANAGER (PDI-SM)

- Not over 35 years old; MBA degree or units a definite plus
- At least 5 years proven track record in sales; preferably gained from distribution of office-related products, systems, equipment or acquired from IT industry
- Knowledge in sales planning activities is required; priority will be given to those with brand management exposure
- Excellent team-building skills and can effectively handle challenges

SALES REPRESENTATIVES (PDI-SR)

- College graduates, not over 28 years old
- At least one year field sales experience
- Good communication skills; able to provide prompt and accurate reports
- Hardworking, assertive individuals who can stand challenges

TELEMARKETING SUPERVISOR (PDI-TS)

- College graduate, not over 28 years old
- At least 2 years experience in call center operations and telemarketing in a supervisorial capacity
- Service-oriented, with knowledge in prospecting and indirect selling through telephone
- Mature, responsible and can work effectively in a fast-paced environment

SERVICE ENGINEERS (PDI-SE)

- Graduates of EE, ECE or Computer Engineering
- Ideal would be males, not more than 24 years old
- Must have the dedication and competence for intensive training
- Work exposure in an office equipment business environment, a definite advantage

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumes and transcript of records to

(POSITION CODE)
Recruitment and Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal Makati City
or e-mail us at ubxhrd@i-next.net

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We are an international financial firm based in Hong Kong. Recently, we have set up a representative office in Manila. In order to cope with our business expansion. We are now looking for several high caliber and aggressive personnel to join the following vacancies:

CUSTOMERS RELATIONS OFFICER

- Age 21-35
- Degree holder preferably major in Finance or Marketing
- Presentable and hardworking
- Graduates from Ateneo, La Salle and UP an advantage

We provide professional training for the right candidate. Interested parties please forward resumé and a recent photo to:

HANTEC INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Unit 907B, Phil. Stock Exchange Building,
West Tower, Exchange Road,
Pasig City
or email: hantec@edsamail.com.ph

GREAT CAREER AND INCOME OPPORTUNITIES!

We will be engaging the first 76 qualified applicants to fill-in the different positions open in the company.

YOU SHOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS;

- ✓ must have managerial experience, preferably in sales.
- ✓ male or female, college graduate with pleasant personality.
- ✓ a good leader with impressive communication skills.
- ✓ ambitious, goal-oriented, hardworking and determined to succeed.
- ✓ must have good sales experience with a proven tract record in marketing and management.
- ✓ must be a dynamic leader, an organizer, a self-starter, hardworking and result-oriented, noted to excel in the marketing field.
- ✓ able to direct a group and can bring in competent group members who can achieve maximum production.
- ✓ must be a dynamic team player, pro-active and creative.

Compensation package:

For those who qualify, Commissions, Performance Bonus, Marketing Support Funds and Business Development Allowance, Travel Opportunities, Transportation and Representation Allowances, Sales Incentives and a Car Plan. May also be given a corporate rank with salary, fringe benefits and other perks.

Come with your resumé and see us at **East Tower, 11th Floor, Room 1105, Philippine Stock Exchange Center (Tektite Building), Ortigas, Pasig City**. Look for Mr. VJ Topacio.

You may send your resumé by email at executivesearch@netexecutive.com

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MECHANICAL ENGINEER

Highly experienced in installation and maintenance of 5-Star Hotels, Kitchen, Refrigeration and Laundry.

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Experienced in managing stainless steel kitchen fabrication.

INTERIOR DECORATOR

Experienced in designing restaurant and shop.

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Experienced in industrial kitchen for hotels and restaurants.

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Very attractive and elegant lady between 28 to 35 years old and can manage a VIP house

If qualified, please call Cell No. 0917-3585796 or E-mail at o-genius@yahoo.com

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Assistant Development Manager

- Graduate of ECE, CoE, EE or equivalent course
- Min. 3 years working with electronics, PC hardware and C prog.
- Organized, mature, focused, quick to learn and able to travel

Sales/Marketing Officer

- At least 2 years in sales and marketing
- Experience from the electronics and semiconductor industries
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

The candidates can look forward to a fulfilling career with incredible growth opportunities, excellent benefits and a dynamic, stimulating environment. Please contact:

The General Manager
P.O. Box 146, LPCPO
Las Piñas City 1704
Email: mhc@info.com.ph

WE HAVE A NEED FOR:

GENERAL SERVICES SECTION HEAD

- ☑ Male, not over 40 years old
- ☑ Mechanical Engineering graduate
- ☑ At least three (3) years experience in Building Administration
- ☑ Knowledgeable in Automotive Shop and office equipment
- ☑ Proficient in oral and written communication skills

Apply in person with Bio-data and ID photo to:

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2278 Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati City

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ACCOUNTANT

- Female, not more than 35 years old
- CPA, minimum of 5 years experience in all phase of accounting works
- Computer literate

CREDIT AND COLLECTION DEPARTMENT HEAD

- Female, not more than 35 years old
- With at least 5 years experience in handling credit & collection
- Graduate of accounting or any business course

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- Female, not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of Accounting or any business/math course
- Computer literate an advantage but not necessary

PROGRAMMER

- Female or Male, not more than 35 years old
- Proficient in MS Access, Visual Basic, SQL Server and Windows NT administration

SALES SUPERVISORS

- Male & Female, not more than 30 years old
- Marketing graduate or equivalent
- Experience in dealing with Government & Private Accounts
- Hardworking with own initiative

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Male & Female, not more than 30 years old
- Marketing graduate or equivalent
- Experience in selling office Equipment and/or paper products
- Hardworking with own initiative

SALES OFFICE STAFF/TELEMARKETER

- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Experience in booking sales by telephone
- Hardworking, can work with minimum supervision

TELEPHONE OPERATORS

- Female, with pleasing personality & pleasant voice
- Not more than 28 years old
- With or without experience

COLLECTORS

- Male, not more than 30 years old
- With at least two (2) years experience
- Honest and hardworking
- Must know how to drive motorcycle and with license 1 & 2

COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION AWAITS THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS
* CHINESE SPEAKING IS AN ADVANTAGE, BUT NOT NECESARY *

You can personally apply or send in your resumé with passport size ID's to:

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Makati City
Tel. Nos. 892-6611 & 892-9401
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Look for Ms. Julie Buen

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INCORPORATED

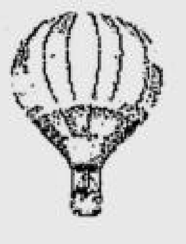
is in immediate need of

PROGRAMMER/SYSTEMS ANALYST

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science graduate
- Must know how to create, maintain and run software programs / computerized systems
- Preferably knowledgeable in Networking (Novel Netware 4)
- With at least one (1) year computer programming experience

Qualified applicants may send or handcarry their application enclosing a comprehensive resumé and recent ID picture to:

Human Resource Management Department
BF Homes, Incorporated
1015 Tropical cor. Elizalde Sts.,
BF Homes, Las Piñas City
Tel. Nos.: 800-5173 or 802-1694



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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

Female, with pleasing personality, college graduate. With managerial experience in marketing particularly in the hotel industry. Computer literate,excellent oral and written communication skills. Highly motivated, proactive and people-oriented.

LAUNDRY MANAGER

Preferably male, college graduate with 3 to 5 years work experience in a Supervisory capacity or Managerial position. Has attended relevant training in the field of Laundry Management. With excellent communication skills, leadership and entrepreneurial ability.

SECURITY MANAGER

Male, college graduate, with 3 to 5 years work experience in the same capasity in a De Luxe hotel. Preferably with police or military background. With excellent communication skills, strong leadership and people-oriented. Highly motivated and proactive.

JAPANESE RESTAURANT MANAGER

Male, college graduate, with extensive knowledge in Japanese restaurant operations. Good leadership skills, oral and written communication. Knowledge of Japanese language is necessary. Highly motivated, proactive and with entrepreneurial ability. People-oriented, with good human relations skills.

PACKAGE

The successful candidate will receive a competitive compensation package with the opportunity of career growth within the International chain of hotels.

Please send your comprehensive resume and latest ID photo to:

**The Director of Human Resources
P.O. BOX 2462, MANILA**

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

UBX

U-BIX CORPORATION, a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, has openings for ---

MANAGER, OPERATIONS AUDIT (PDI-OAM)

- CPA, with higher studies in management
- Three years experience in the development of policies and procedures and compliance audit
- Understands financial analysis
- Female, 25-30 years old

ASST. MANAGER, CREDIT & COLLECTION (PDI-AMCC)

- Graduate of Commerce or any Business course
- Can effectively monitor collection activities and analyze payment patterns to anticipate delinquencies
- Adept in credit granting and debt arrangement
- Able to maintain cooperative relations with clients
- Preferably male, not over 35 years old

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR (PDI-AS)

- CPA, with at least 2 years supervisory experience
- With expertise in accounting and knowledge in tax compliance reports
- Ability to excel in a fast-paced environment
- Not over 30 years old

PURCHASING ASSISTANT (PDI-PA)

- Graduate of Commerce or any Business course, not over 27 years old
- At least 2 years experience in the same capacity
- Organized, with good communication skills
- Must be honest and reliable

AUDITORS (PDI-AUD)

- CPA, not over 30 years old
- With at least one year experience in systems and operations audit
- Willing to do fieldwork and handle provincial assignments
- Those with experience in a hotel and restaurant industry will be given priority

PROGRAMMERS (PDI-PRM)

- BS Computer Science or Computer Management graduate, not over 26 years old
- With at least 2 years work experience in programming and systems designs
- Must be proficient in Visual Basic and other PC applications, with knowledge in networking and the internet

AUDIT CLERKS (PDI-AUC)

- Graduate of BSBA or BSC in Accountancy
- Preferably male, not over 24 years old
- Willing to do fieldwork and handle provincial assignments
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumés and transcript of records to:

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MANDARIN-ENGLISH TECHNICAL SUPPORT (ME-TSE L1)

Successful candidates shall provide 1st line technical support through telephone and e-mail

☒ Graduate of ECE or CoE preferred but not required
☒ Fluent in oral and written Mandarin and English
☒ Knowledgeable in PC troubleshooting, OS, Windows 95/98/NT and/or Macintosh Environment esp. OS 8.6 and 9.x and with the internet
☒ Strong customer service orientation and is willing to work on shifting schedule

MANDARIN-CANTONESE TECHNICAL SUPPORT (MC-TSE L1)

Successful candidates shall provide 1st line technical support through telephone and e-mail

☒ College graduate of any 4-year course
☒ Fluent in oral and written Mandarin and Cantonese
☒ Knowledge on OS, Windows 95/98/NT and Macintosh
☒ Working knowledge with the Internet, DTP's, digital imaging, multimedia or web design
☒ Excellent critical thinking and problem solving ability and is willing to work on extended hours

QUALITY MONITORING ASSISTANT (QMA)

Successful candidates shall monitor account activities to satisfy client objectives for complying to specified quality standards and service levels

☒ College graduate of BS Industrial Engineering or any related course
☒ Excellent English communication skills; skills in Mandarin, an advantage
☒ Proficient in Windows, MS Office Applications, VISIO and MS Outlook
☒ Working knowledge in quality standards
☒ Must be willing to work on shifting schedule

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EXCEL SWITCH ENGINEER

- The candidate must have at least 2-3 years experience in a telecommunications company particularly in the IGF operations
- Must have completed a degree in either Electronics and Communications and Computer Engineering or Computer Technology
- Knowledge with UNIX operating system and/or shell programming is a must
- Experience/Exposure or knowledge in Exchange plus system is an advantage.

A very competitive compensation package awaits selected candidate. Please send your resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 colored photo to:

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4/F Dolmar Gold Tower, 107 Carlos Palanca Street,
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or
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EXECUTIVE PERSONAL ASST. TO THE PRESIDENT/CEO

- *Male/Female under 35 yrs old*
- *Graduate of any communication course, preferably with competent background in International Supply/Sourcing and/or International Sales*
- *Must have sufficient working experience*
- *Must have excellent communication skills*
- *Must be goal-oriented, systematic, enthusiastic and polite*
- *Must be able to meet deadlines and work under pressure*

SENIOR NON-LINEAR EDITOR FOR REGULAR EMPLOYMENT OR PER PROJECT BASIS

- *Male/Female*
- *Minimum 2 yrs. professional experience*
- *Highly knowledgeable in Adobe Premiere, Inota Software, and Matrox Digisuite*
- *Must have adequate working knowledge with AfterEffects and Photoshop*
- *Very Creative yet able to meet deadlines and work with minimal supervision*

2D MOTION GRAPHIC ARTIST FOR REGULAR EMPLOYMENT OR PER PROJECT BASIS

- *Male / Female*
- *With adequate knowledge and practical application of Adobe AfterEffects, and Photoshop*
- *Must have strong background and experience in Post-Production*
- *Very creative yet able to meet deadlines and work with minimal supervision*

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR FOR REGULAR EMPLOYMENT

- *Educational attainment in any engineering discipline or BS Computer Science*
- *Must have Administration skills in LAN Infrastructures, Windows NT, Windows 2000, E-mail*
- *With relevant work experience, preferably in an IT industry*
- *With programming skills and knowledge of basic software application*
- *Can work with minimal supervision*

BE THE ONE!

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RECRUITMENT STAFFS • PROCESSING STAFFS
M/F. Age 21-26. College graduate. Typing speed 35 wpm. Flexible & willing to travel.

VIDEO INTERVIEWER
F. Age 21-26. College graduate. English-Chinese accent.

LIAISON OFFICER
M. Age 21-30. With good PR skills

CASHIER
F. At least 21 yrs old. College graduate. Preferably with Accounting background.

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT
F. Psychology graduate. With experience in handling HR matters. Will handle recruitment, compensation & benefits, timekeeping.

RECEPTIONIST
F. Age 21-26. College graduate. At least 5'3" in height. Pleasing personality.

GRAPHICS ARTIST
M/F. Age 21-26. Fine Arts graduate or any related course. 1 yr experience. Proficient in Photoshop & other graphic design tools. Knowledge in webpage designing a plus.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF
M/F. Age 21-28. Background in I.T. / Computer Mgmnt' or any computer-related course. At least 6 mos experience on user/technical support. Knowledge of Windows-based applications (MS Office, IE, Netscape, E-mail, & other utilities.) Good communication skills. Can work w/ minimum supervision.

Interested parties may send or personally submit their resume, 2x2 pictures and necessary documents at the receiving counter at the Ground floor, 2053 Edison St., Bgy. San Isidro, Makati City, until Jan. 19, 2001, between 8am to 5 pm.

headstrong

Are you looking for jobs that will challenge your intellect?
Channel your technical abilities in an environment where rules don't apply?
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Do you have the ability to promote your opinions?

Who We Are

Born in the year 2000, **Headstrong** is a new breed of company with 1,200 employees around the world. **Headstrong** includes the former james martin + co, several strategic additions, and $200M in venture funding from the investment companies of Welsh Carson and Hambrecht & Quist. The result is an entirely new company built on 20 years of delivering answers, delivering results.

Headstrong is a next generation consultancy that creates strategies and solutions for the new economy. We know the rules of business and technology. We use them when appropriate, and break them when necessary.

Our deliverable? A portfolio of business blueprints, the ability for our clients to get started immediately, and a partnership for the rapid delivery of value.

Together we create certain value in an uncertain world.

We are currently looking for qualified candidates who would fit for the following career opportunities:

PROJECT MANAGERS
(Code: PM)

Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Proven ability of managing projects, developing comprehensive project plans, negotiating and managing a project budget, evaluating staff performance, managing client expectations and formulating overall project tactics.
- ☐ Overseeing and managing vendor deliverables.
- ☐ Consulting experience to all levels of the client's organization including senior management.
- ☐ Capable of presenting and working with a project steering committee, and facilitating the committee's activities.
- ☐ Has a strong desire to build and lead full service practices for local and international clients.
- ☐ Capable of formulating and executing risk and contingent management plans.
- ☐ With at least 5 years IT Application Package Deployment and Project Management experience.
- ☐ Detailed, thorough, proactive and relentless.

TECHNICAL ARCHITECT
(Code: TA)

Responsibilities include:
- ☐ Must manage both the technical and business processes that are affected during the Siebel Implementation project.
- ☐ Must be able to manage a team with little supervision and should have the drive to train and encourage team members.

Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Should be familiar with Telecommunications and Switches.
- ☐ Must have at least an experience in installing any CRM application.
- ☐ Should know how to build and read business and technical models.
- ☐ Should have managed a team in the past.
- ☐ Good networking with vendors is also a plus.
- ☐ Good communication and technical skills is an advantage.
- ☐ Proactive attitude is a must.
- ☐ Must have a Computer Science or ECEE degree.

QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGERS
(Software Quality Assurance)
(Code: QA)

Responsibilities include:
- ☐ Manage a team of QA individuals.
- ☐ Establish the project's:
  - ■ Quality Assurance Plan, procedures and checklist.
  - ■ Issue and Change Management.
  - ■ Project Management Standards (status and progress reporting)
  - ■ Communication plan
- ☐ Facilitate definition of the projects:
  - ■ Development Approach/Strategy. Standards and Procedures.
  - ■ Test Plan, Procedures and Standards.
  - ■ Configuration Management Plan and Procedures.
- ☐ Coordinate with the project and program management on project plans, issues, resolution and quality review results.
- ☐ Ensure implementation of asset management.

Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Must have adequate knowledge and experience in full life cycle development (analysis, design, construction, testing and delivery).
- ☐ Has performed team lead roles.
- ☐ Has done project planning and scheduling.
- ☐ Has performed quality assurance to include:
  - ■ Review of project plans (development, test, implementation, etc.)
  - ■ Review of project deliverables (system requirements, system design, test specifications, etc.)
  - ■ Audit of project processes (planning, design, construction, technical management)
- ☐ Has knowledge/experience on change management.
- ☐ Must be process-oriented.
- ☐ Skills should include: Development, Testing, Project Planning, QA

UNIX ADMINISTRATORS
(Code: UNIX)

Responsibilities include:
- ☐ Experienced in setting up and configuring large UNIX servers (HP, SUN, DEC, etc.).
- ☐ Capable of setting up and configuring large disk sub-systems and clusters.
- ☐ Experienced in performance monitoring and tuning.
- ☐ Knowledgeable in shell script programming (ksh, awk, perl, etc.).
- ☐ Skills in C/C++ is preferred.
- ☐ Knowledge in system management software (e.g. Tivoli, Open View, etc.) is a definite advantage.
- ☐ With at least 5 years IT experience preferably in a consulting environment

ORACLE DEVELOPERS
(Code: OD)

Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Must have at least 2 to 4 years work experience in the following skills:
  - ■ Oracle Developer 2000
  - ■ Forms (4.5 - 6)
  - ■ Reports (2.5 - 6)
  - ■ PL/SQL, SQL Loader
  - ■ Programming experience for Oracle Applications - Release 10.7 - 11 or 11i (modules: Order Entry, Accounts Receivables, Invoicing)
  - ■ Programming experience for Oracle applications - Release 10.7 - 11 or 11i (modules: Invoice and P.O.)

DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS
(Code: DBA)

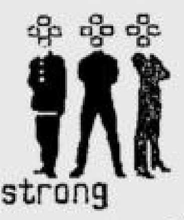
Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Candidates for this position must have a solid background and 2+ years in database administration, data modeling and performance tuning. Exposure must be in any of the following tools/platforms/RDBMS. Oracle and SQL Server, Ingres
- ☐ Knowledge on the following is also an advantage:
  - ■ Extensive experience in Very Large Databases (VLDB) on UNIX platforms (Solaris, HP/UX, AIX).
  - ■ Oracle 8i experience.
  - ■ MS SQL Server 7.x experience.
  - ■ Large Data Warehouses
- ☐ More senior candidates should preferably have extensive database performance tuning experience but at the same time must be proficient in data analysis, data modelling and database design; and they should be capable of doing statistical and database performance monitoring, technical review and testing on programs and database design levels.

C++ DEVELOPERS & ANALYSTS
(Code: C++)

Experience/Skills needed:
- ☐ Candidates for this position should possess at least 1-2 years or more development experience in any of the following languages: C/C++ and Visual C++
- ☐ Must be experienced in requirement specification and design, in real-time or client-server environment.
- ☐ Preference will be given to candidates who are proficient in programming and analysis using a methodology and/or CASE tool.

Send in comprehensive resumé quoting reference codes to:

Headstrong
15/F Urban Bank Plaza
Sen. Gil Puyat corner Chino Roces Avenue
Makati City 1200
or email resumés to:
recruitment@headstrong.com



headstrong

Ayala Systems Technology, Inc.

A Systems Integration Company.

A subsidiary of Ayala Corporation, is a company offering a wide range of IT products and services for various industries.

The company is in the process of business expansion and is currently looking for qualified and experienced candidates to fill up the positions below:

PROGRAMMERS and ANALYSTS

- College graduate. Candidates with 2 years work experience will have an advantage.
- Knowledgeable and proficient in the following technologies:
  - ○ Visual Basic 6.0/Visual Inter Dev
  - ○ JAVA
  - ○ VB Script
  - ○ HTML
  - ○ XML
  - ○ Visual C++/C++
  - ○ Powerbuilder
  - ○ Oracle Programming/Oracle Internet Development
  - ○ IBM Websphere
  - ○ Perle
  - ○ MS - Active Server Pages (ASP)
  - ○ MS - Internet Information Server (IIS)
- Must have good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Willing to travel abroad.
  (Please indicate if applicant is a holder of a valid passport.)

MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

- Will plan and manage activities related to the sales and marketing of IT Products and services.
- Will also be responsible for the development of strong business relationships with principals and clients.
- Must be knowledgeable in any of the following industries: banking, insurance, manufacturing, distribution, telecommunications.
- College graduate, major in Marketing, Management or Computer Science.
- Must possess leadership abilities and strong interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written).

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST

- Will be responsible for supporting ERP and CRM software on NT, AS/400, Windows-based OS, and WEB environments.
- Support functions cover: pre-sales presentations, configuration, installation, R&D, trouble-shooting, programming and training.
- Must be knowledgeable in the following technologies: Programming in C++, Visual Basic and Java Script, SQL programming and data base capability.
- College graduate, major in Computer Science, Computer Engineering or Information Technology.
- Must have good interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written).
- Candidate with at least one (1) year experience preferred.

Interested parties can send their application letters, together with a comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and latest photo to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
AYALA SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY, INC.
3/F Ayala Life Building
6786 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
or send email to libay@astech.com.ph

CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS, INC.

4/F, S&L Bldg., 1500 Roxas Blvd.,
Ermita, Manila

The leading private maritime and offshore safety training and upgrading center in Asia is expanding and looking for the following to work as full time:

INSTRUCTORS

1) Master Mariners with minimum 2 years shipboard experience on the same capacity on any type of vessel.
2) Master Mariners with tanker experience
3) Chief Officers, 2nd Officers, 3rd Officers with tanker experience
4) Chief Engineers and 2nd Engineers with tanker experience

We offer competitive salary and benefits package like allowances, medical and life insurance, retirement plan, etc.

Interested applicants may apply personally or send their resumé to the:

ADMIN. OFFICER

MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.

We are a long established foreign-owned group of companies engaged in garment and textile manufacture/export looking for the following personnel:

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT & QUALITY ASSURANCE HEAD (1)

- ☑ Male
- ☑ Garment Engineering graduate
- ☑ Must have knowledge at least 5 years experience in management, product design and development of new fashion design in garment in an international stature.
- ☑ With sufficient familiarity with ISO quality standard/procedures.
- ☑ Must have knowledge at least 5 years experience in interpreting engineering drawing in Chinese character.
- ☑ Hardworking and full of initiative.
- ☑ Proficient in Chinese.

SAMPLE PATTERN MAKER & CUTTING SPECIALIST (1)

- ☑ Male.
- ☑ Garment Engineering graduate.
- ☑ Must have knowledge at least 5 years experience in pre-production, garments order sheet and development of new fashion design in working in an international stature.
- ☑ Preferably, with experience and knowledge in cutting, planning, pattern and market design in garment field.
- ☑ With sufficient familiarity with ISO quality standard/procedures.
- ☑ Must have knowledge at least 5 years experience in interpreting fashion drawing in Chinese character.
- ☑ Hardworking and full of initiative.
- ☑ Proficient in Chinese.

Please send your resumé with 2x2 picture to:

FAR EASTEF. ' INTERNATIONAL GARMENTS, INC.
Box Code MN-2017
c/o Classified Ads
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Ave. cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.,
Makati City

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

QUALITY CONTROLLER (Q.C.)
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
MASTER CUTTER (PATTERN MAKE/ MUST BE IND'L. ENG'R.)

Qualifications:
- Must have worked in garment factory in similar position for 3-5 years
- Willing to work long hours
- Responsible and can work with min. supervision

Apply in person with resumé, 2x2 ID pic. (latest), NBI Clearance, SSS No., TIN, Employment Cert. to:

COSCA INT'L. APPAREL, INC.
246 Reparo St., Baesa, Caloocan City.
Tel. Nos. 330-4144/45

Known Undergarment distributor/wholesaler needs qualified candidates for the following positions:

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Female, 25 to 35 years of age
- Graduate of 4-year accounting or related course
- With 2 years minimum experience in accounting or bookkeeping
- Computer literate and familiar with computerized accounting and inventory systems
- Fast learner and easily adjust to working environment
- Trustworthy and hardworking

MERCHANDISER

- Female, 25 to 35 years of age
- Experience in garment wholesale or retail
- Must have exposure to product design and selection
- Must be familiar with fashion season and trends
- Able to work with store coordinators on site merchandising
- Self-driven, creative and can initiate projects
- Can work with minimum supervision

Attractive remuneration offered to qualified candidates. Office located near FTI Compound at Taguig.

Please send applications with recent photo and contact telephone number to:

NBFI
Unit 401 VFP-MDC Bldg. II
Veterans Road, Veterans Center
1630 Taguig, Metro Manila
Or e-mail to nbfi2001@yahoo.com

Only qualified candidates will be contacted.

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

McGraw Hill

McGraw-Hill Book Co., the global leader in professional publishing for business, government, industry and medical markets invites suitable candidates for the following position:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

The above position will report to the Sales Manager. The successful candidate will be responsible for the marketing and promotion of higher education, school and medical titles.

REQUIREMENTS

- Male or Female
- Business or Business-related graduates with minimum 2 years of selling/marketing experience in Information Technology or Information Communication Technology (either hardware or software) in Manila area
- Has initiative and able to work under minimum supervision
- Aggressive and able to work under pressure
- Highly-motivated, self-starter and a team player
- Must be willing to work overtime
- Fluent in English with good oral and written skills
- Proficient in MS Office
- Possesses own car with valid driver's license

BENEFITS

We offer an attractive remuneration and benefits package including training, overseas conference trips, car plan and opportunities to grow with the company.

All applicants will be treated in strict confidence.
Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.
Please mail your resumé, recent 2 x 2 colored photo along with your salary history and expectation before January 22, 2001 to:

The Regional Manager
McGraw-Hill IEI (Phils.)
Unit 1503 Jollibee Plaza Condominium
Emerald Avenue corner Ruby Street
Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600

Please do not hand-carry your application.
Walk-in applicants will not be entertained.

An upstart Digital Post-Production Studio Involved in Film/Broadcast Graphics is currently in need of the following:

Computer Graphics Artists

Candidates must be knowledgeable in the following software programs: 3D Studio Max, Lightwave, Adobe Products (Photoshop, Illustrator, After Effects), Corel and others.

Non-Linear Editor

Must have editing experience of not less than one (1) year; preferably with AVID hands-on experience.

Technical Support Associate

Knowledgeable in both MAC/NT environment

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resumés to:

Unit 1607 Annapolis Wilshire Plaza
#11 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan City,
Zip Code 1502.

Drivetrain

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

1 SALES ENGINEER

QUALIFICATIONS:

- BSME graduate
- Pleasing personality
- Can communicate in English, written & verbal
- Knows how to drive
- Willing to travel out of town on short notice
- Experience advantageous, but not necessary

Please apply in person with resumé:

Drivetrain Philippines, Inc.
No. 17 B Dagot St.,
Brgy. Manresa, Quezon City
or call: Tel. No. (2) 330-9859 M-F, 8AM - 5PM
Fax: (2) 367-4653
Contact Ms. Lorilyn C. Espiritu

CLEAN-FLO®

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!!!

A company engaged in design, construction and operation of Industrial wastewater treatment plants is looking for prospective applicants who can contribute and grow with us as we pursue our mission and goals.

AUTO CAD OPERATOR

Qualifications:

- Male or Female
- Preferably a licensed civil engineer
- With 1 to 2 years experience as Auto CAD Operator and Manual drafting
- Knowledge in design and estimate
- A team player

Interested parties may apply in person with resumé including transcript of records and recent photo:

CLEAN-FLO PHILS., INC.
24th Flr. JMT Corporate Condominium
ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
yollyc@edsamail.com.ph

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www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB MARKET ONLINE

IIRR International Institute of Rural Reconstruction

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

The **International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR)**, a global development organization working in several countries with the poor and their communities as their partner enabling them to improve their lives and achieve their full potential, seeks to fill these positions:

Head, Publication and Communication Program (Code: HPCPYC01-001)

Bachelor's, preferably Master's, degree in Development Communication, Communication Arts, or in related areas of specialization; minimum five years professional experience and skills in communication and publication development and management within a rural development program setting; excellent oral and writing skills in English and preferably a working knowledge in another language; resource mobilization and marketing skills; desire and passion for quality and excellence of work; creative and efficient; development-oriented, but with an entrepreneurial sense; open to new ideas and willing to experiment; values team leadership and teamwork; and has transparent and open management.

Learning Resource Center Officer (Code: LRCOYC01-002)

Bachelor's, preferably Master's, degree in Information Science, or Library Science; minimum of three years of work experience in an information center, learning resource center, or library; working knowledge of CDS/ISIS, and other useful database software, e.g., MS Access; preferably, with IT skills to increase web-based resource materials/access; knowledge of Dewey Decimal Classification System and other related classification systems, e.g., Library of Congress; excellent oral and written communication skills in English; knowledge of other languages a plus; strong analytical and computer skills, especially familiarity and interest in the use of Internet-based research; team player; ability to interact with people at different levels; can work under pressure and with minimum supervision; friendly, creative, and enthusiastic.

Qualified applicants should send a letter of interest (indicating the position code), not later than **January 31, 2001**, with complete bio-data; contact information; three letters of references with addresses and phone numbers to:

Human Resources Director
International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
Km. 39, Aguinaldo Highway, Silang 4118, Cavite
Tel.: (046) 414-2417; Fax: (046) 414-2420
E-mail: HumanResources@iirr.org

Only shortlisted applicants will be invited for interviews.

To learn more about IIRR, visit **http://www.iirr.org**

If you are young, dynamic, aspiring
...talented and can work well with a group!
We invite you to be part of our development team as:

Design Engineer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics/Electrical Engineering
- Thorough experience with digital, analog and mixed-signal circuit design and analysis.
- Experienced in using micro-controller/microprocessor in mixed-signal circuit designs.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad/Cadence CAD Schematic editing/capture tools
- Windows 98/2000 and Office 97/2000 literate
- Good oral and written communication skills.

Electronics Engineer

Qualifications:

- Female, degree holder in Electronics/Electrical Engineering.
- Windows 98/2000 and Office 97/2000 literate.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad/Cadence CAD Schematic/PCB Library entry and editing tools.
- Good oral and written communication skills.
- Proficiency in technical writing would be an advantage.

PCB/CAD Engineer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Electronics/Electrical Engineering.
- Thorough experience in layout/design/routing/DRC/verification/Gerber generation of single, double or multi-layer PCB's.
- Well versed in the use of Orcad/Cadence CAD PCB editing/routing tools.
- Windows 98/2000 and Office 97/2000 literate.
- Good oral and written communication skills.

CAD and Product Design Engineer

Qualifications:

- Degree holder in Mechanical/Industrial Engineering.
- Well versed and experienced with AUTOCAD ver. R14/2000 etc.
- Proficiency with 2D and 3D CAD simulation would be an added advantage.
- Windows 98/2000 and Office 97/2000 literate.
- Good oral and written communication skills.

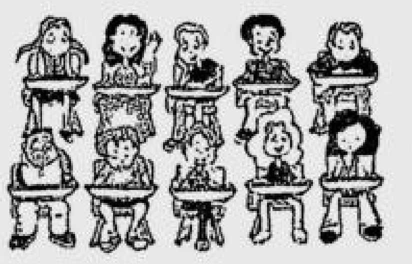
NOTE:

1. *Interested applicants must submit a copy of their latest resumé via e-mail to address below.*
2. *Strictly resumés must be written in plain text without any document attachments.*
3. *Indicate desired position (as written above) on the subject line for proper routing.*

All applications without the "position" written will be disregarded. Only one position per applicant is allowed.

E-mail: hrd@golfelec.com

A progressive, 21st century and innovative children's learning center in the New Manila/San Juan area is in *immediate* need of:



TEACHERS and TEACHER'S AIDES

If you are:

✓ Full of enthusiasm
✓ Wonderful with children
✓ Dynamic and creative
✓ Computer literate
✓ Dedicated and values-oriented
✓ Willing to undergo training

Please fax your application letter and resumé (if possible, with picture) to Tel. # 361-7220. Or you may email it to: **bcdatbav@skyinet.net**

YOUR CONNECTION TO
BETTER PEOPLE, BETTER JOBS.

De La Salle University
Professional Schools, Inc.

The Information Technology Center is in need of qualified professionals, who are self-motivated and who are willing to learn to fill the following positions:

CFO Systems Manager

- Preferably a BS Computer Science or Electronics & Communications Engineering degree holder
- At least three (3) years experience in data center operations and networking field
- Has supervisory and good interpersonal skills
- Knowledge of advanced systems administration, advanced data center operations, Linux/UNIX, Open VMS, Windows NT/2000, and trouble shooting techniques
- Knowledge of concepts of TCP/IP, networking/routing (LAN,WAN), data communications, and operating system
- Good in oral and written communication

PRIO Research Analyst

- Bachelor of Science Degree holder in Industrial Engineering
- Good in oral and written communication
- Has interviewing and presentation skills
- At least two (2) years experience in streamlining, process improvement, quality assurance, and documentation
- Knowledge in the principles and practices of ISO 9000, Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, Philippine Quality Award, or TQM is an advantage

CFO Jr. PC/Network Engineer or CFO PC/Network Engineer

- Bachelor of Science degree preferably in Computer Science or Electronics & Communications Engineering
- Knowledge of operating system concepts, problem solving techniques, PC set-up and configuration, and basic and advance electronics
- With good analytical skills
- Good in oral and written communication
- Preferably, knows data communication and networking standards (LAN), Internet e-mail and web browsing
- Preferably, with experience on the installation and configuration of local area networks

DAO Research Assistant or DAO Research Analyst

- Bachelor of Science Degree holder, preferably in Information Technology, Computer Science or related field
- Knowledge of information flow analysis and database concepts
- With good analytical skills
- Good in oral and written communication
- Preferably, knows how to use xBASE for the generation of reports
- Knowledge of Structured Query Language (SQL) is an advantage

Interested applicants should submit an application letter indicating the position applied for, ID picture (1 copy), Curriculum Vitae, and Transcript of Records. Please submit requirements to:

Samuel P. Mallare
Director, Information Technology Center
Room 308 Gokongwei Bldg.
De La Salle University
2401 Taft Avenue, 1004 Manila
E-mail: psicav@mail.dlsu.edu.ph

NYK-Fil
SHIP MANAGEMENT, INC.

URGENT JOB VACANCIES

* *SENIOR ENGINE INSTRUCTOR, SENIOR DECK INSTRUCTOR SENIOR TANKER INSTRUCTOR & SENIOR SIMULATOR COURSE INSTRUCTOR*

Must be a licensed Captain, C/M, C/E, 2E; graduate of AMT/BSMT; AME/BSMarE; possesses adequate knowledge of the business and industry, preferably with teaching experience; not more than 50 years old.

**MULTI-MEDIA DEVELOPER/ARTIST*

Graduate of Fine Arts or Related courses such as B.S. CoE & BSCS; fluent in oral and written communication; experienced in software such as: Flash, Macromedia Authorware, Scala, Adobe Premiere and Photoshop, knows Program Scripts, Web Enabled Multi-media; for easy assessment of the applicant, he/she can bring sample projects for presentation using the above mentioned softwares; experienced applicants of the above softwares may also apply.

- *ACCOUNTANTS*

Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy from a reputable school; preferably with work experience; computer literate; self-motivated; newly graduates may also apply.

- *STAFF ASSISTANTS & TELEPHONE OPERATOR*

Graduate of any 4-year course preferably Business or Communications; has excellent oral and written communication skills, computer literate, trainable, willing to work long hours, self-motivated (fresh graduates may also apply).

All interested applicants may apply at Room 303 Casa Marinero II Bldg. Gen. Luna cor. Sta. Potenciana Sts., Intramuros, Manila or may inquire at 527-8461 to 72 loc. 107. **E-mail: internal.affairs@nykfil.com.ph**

WANTED

By ATOM Chemical Co., Inc.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

- BSME and/or BSEE graduate
- Professional License preferred
- At least 2 years experience in electro-mechanical building maintenance
- Not more than 35 years old

Apply in person on 15 January 2001,
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon / 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. at
6th Floor IYS Bldg., No. 59 Cpl. Cruz St., Bagong Ilog, Pasig City.

SERVICE ENGINEER

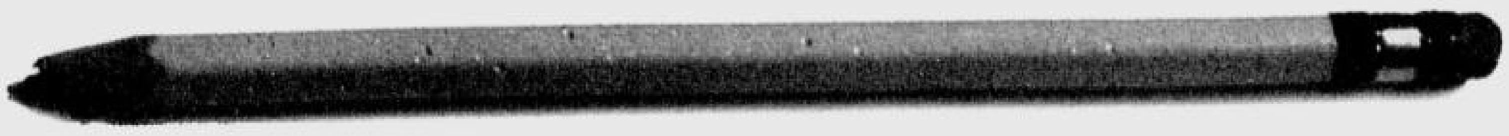
- Graduate of any engineering course
- Male, single
- Not more than 30 years old
- Must know how to drive and possess a valid driver's license

Apply in person on 15 January 2001, 10:00 a.m. at
Suite 1403 Cityland 10 Tower I, H.V. dela Costa St.
corner Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

(Please bring resumé, transcript of records and 2" x 2" photo)

GENERAL

Writers wanted



Must possess ideas bigger than their ego.
Must love print work with a passion.
Must not fear the Web and New Media.
Must be very sharp.

Interested? Call Shy Maramba at 6891011
to set an appointment or fax your resume to 6378121

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

We invite you to apply as

PRODUCTION SPECIALIST

(Code: PS)

QUALIFICATIONS:

- College graduate preferably with background in Computer
- 2 years experience in related field
- Knowledge in pagemaker, photoshop or any related pagination or editing software
- Knowledge on how to use scanner

*Send your application letter, comprehensive resumé (with contact telephone number) and one 2x2 ID photo on or before **January 19, 2001** to:*

HR Management Services Head
Philippine Daily Inquirer
PDI Building Chino Roces Avenue
(formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets
Makati City

or e-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

We are in urgent need of qualified applicants for the following regular positions in topnotch multinational companies:

ACCOUNTANT (CPA or Non-CPA)
M/F; not more than 35 years old, at least 3-5 years solid experience

(11) ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT/CLERK
Female, Accounting graduate, computer literate with or without experience

I.T. COORDINATOR
M/F, 22-27 years old, minimum of 2 years related experience, with background in Oracle

POLICY SERVICE ASSISTANT
M/F, 20-23 yeras old; fresh/recent graduate of BS Math or BS Statistics

TRAINING ASSISTANT
Male, fresh/recent college graduate, willing to travel, personable

BRANCH OFFICE STAFF
Female, Business graduate, good communication skills. Q.C.-based

Applicants may see us in person with their resumé and photo not later than January 19. You may also email us: **atmpal@fastmail.i-next.net**

**ATM-PAI - 1610 Cityland 10 Tower 1, 6815 Ayala Avenue corner H.V. dela Costa Street, Makati City, Tel. 812-2654 or 817-3315
Look for Leah Andres**

Nursing

BEVERLY HEALTHCARE **BEVERLY HEALTHCARE**

Is returning to the Philippines
TO BRING RN's
to the U.S.

Open House
Will pay all immigration costs

- 4 year RN degree required
- Passing CGFNS exam mandatory
- Evidence of passing the TOEFL / TWE exam
- TSE and VISA screen preferred

Walk-in interviews from 8am - 6pm
Interviews rescheduled to February 22 - March 1, 2001 at:

Hyatt Regency Manila
63-2-833-12-34
2702 Roxas Boulevard
Manila, Pasay

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Unit #907- Vicente Madrigal Building
6793 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
OFFICE HOURS: 9 AM - 6PM MONDAY-FRIDAY

For further information call: **891 5602 and 891 5632**

---

ste Philippines

Ste Philippines, Inc., a leading PC-POS (Point-of-Sale) System Integrator and e-Commerce Infrastructure Builder and Enabler for the retail and hospitality segments of the IT industry and with headquarters located in Singapore invites qualified applicants for the position of:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, 26 years old and above
- BS Secretarial or any 4-year business course
- 3 years top management support experience required
- English, numerate, interpersonal, and IT skills desired
- Quick-study, pro-active, and a team-player preferred

SALES EXECUTIVES

- Male or female, 23 years old and above
- BS Marketing or any 4-year business course
- 2 years systems / solutions sales experience required
- English, numerate, interpersonal and IT skills desired
- Quick-study, pro-active, and team-players preferred

Interested applicants may send or handcarry their resume' with 2" x 2" colored photo not later than **26 January 2001** to:

The Managing Director
Ste Philippines, Inc.
5/F PDAF Building
Sen Gil Puyat Ave. cor. EDSA
1200 Makati City

EPSON Business Partner
The Right Solution

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LUMER UNIVERSAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
2665 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila
Now hiring for Nigeria, West Africa

ENGINEER (Water) with extensive experience in water treatment, water rehabilitation and piping works.

ENGINEER (Road) with extensive experience in road and highway designing.

Applicants to submit:

- Bio-data
- Pictures (2x2) 3 pcs. and
- Must be proficient in the English language, must be highly motivated and must have managerial qualities.

We offer a stimulating work environment, and attractive remuneration benefits.

Please report for interview at:

**Lumer Universal Management Services, Inc.
2665 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila
Tel. Nos. 530-8075 or 303-1035
with the above requirements.**

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY. NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED.
MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER
THIS AD IS APPROVED BY POEA

HARBOR VIEW

A well-established fine dining restaurant along Manila Bay is in need of the following

☑ **COOKS**
☑ **CHIEF COOK**
☑ **MASTER ELECTRICIAN**

Interested applicants may apply personally with their respective bio-data at:

HARBOR VIEW RESTAURANT
SOUTH GATE A
RIZAL PARK, MANILA

TELEPHONE RECEPTIONIST

- Female, 20-28 years old, single, college graduate
- With experience in handling PABX types of telephone system, is an advantage
- Receiving customers or visitors and coordinating with various Department
- Releasing checques and countering original invoices from Suppliers

OFFICE SALES ASSISTANT

- Female, 20-25 years old, single
- College graduate of B.S. Pharmacy, Med. Tech., Chem. Engineering, Biochemistry or any related science course
- Responsible in answering inquiries, facilitating request and attending to walk-in-clients

SALES EXECUTIVE

- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old, graduate of any 4-year course
- Previous experience in any of the following: Industrial Institutional Industry, Food Industry, Leather Processing, Textile Production, Paint/Plastic Pigment and Printing Ink Industry are an advantage

Interested applicants may send their resumé, recent photo and transcript of records to:

**Del Monte Avenue corner G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.
Fax No. 361-65-17
Tel. Nos.: 363-75-19 / 364-10-81**

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Expanding companies is looking for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

- College graduate
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old
- 2 years experience in handling food products
- good moral character
- Resident of Taytay, Cainta or nearby area

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- College level with knowledge in Bookkeeping
- Female, not more than 30 years old
- Computer literate preferably EXCEL
- Good moral character
- Resident of Taytay, Cainta or nearby area

Interested parties, kindly call 6607004/6608175

WANTED

A Bar/Restaurant is in immediate need of the following:

COOK

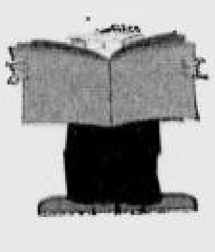
- Male between 25 to 35 years old
- 3-5 years experience
- At least College level
- With good moral character
- Willing to grow with the company

INVENTORY CLERK

- Male, between 25 to 30 years old
- 2 to 3 years related experience
- College graduate preferably Accounting
- Must be computer literate
- Willing to grow with the company

* Apply in person at
**4/F Edmark Building # 355 P. Tuazon Boulevard
corner 21st Avenue Cubao, Quezon City**

* Look for **Ms. Lea Suganod**
* Please bring your resumé with photo



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SUNDAY
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
MAGAZINE
January 14, 2001
Volume 13 No. 97

Zeneida the First

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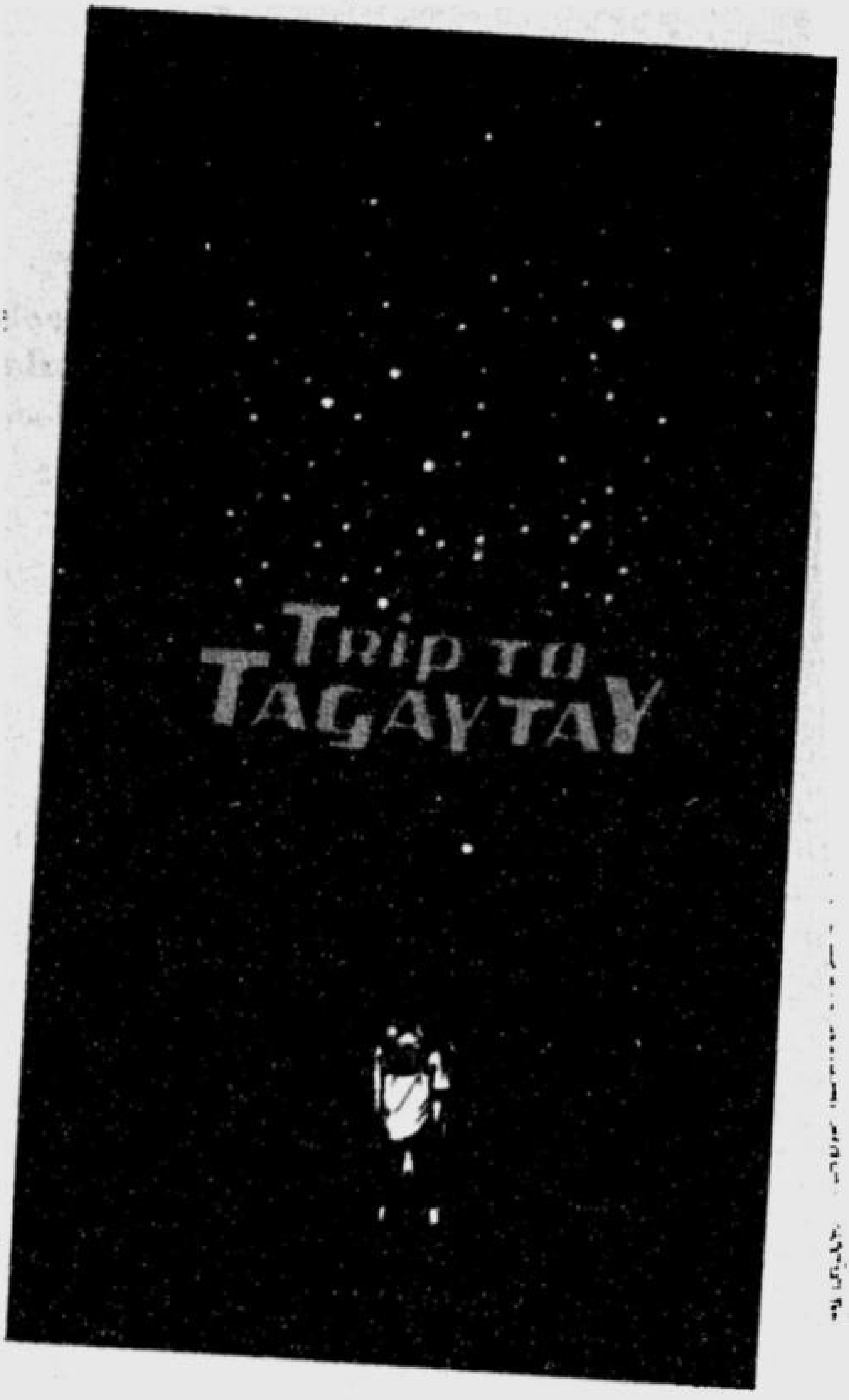
What A "TRIP"

[*A talented comic book creator goes back to the future with this charming history lesson*]

AFTER winning the National Book Award for the deliciously ground-breaking comic book series "The Mythology Class," Arnold Arre decided on a totally different direction for his next project. The result is the refreshing "Trip to Tagaytay," (Tala Studios and Quest Ventures), what amounts to a self-contained short story set in the 21st century. Seen through the eyes of the hip, teenage narrator, it is a patently bizarre, futuristic time—and utterly Filipino. Aga Muhlach (yes, that Aga) is President of the Philippines. Some 870 million Filipinos have joined the other countries in colonizing the stars. Yet, as we follow "Trip's" young protagonist in his seemingly ordinary walk about Manila, we discover that the crazy-quilt city, for all its technology and terrors, has survived with the spirit of its storied past intact.

Despite its comic book form, "Trip to Tagaytay" is told completely in narration instead of word balloons, allowing Arre to condense the complex new history he has invented with a mind-boggling array of visuals. In fact, it is the thoroughly fleshed-out setting of "Trip" that galvanizes this reading experience. All 44 glossy, black-and-white pages are crammed with eye candy. Every detail is taken care of—the Jollibee ads, the fares, the basketball scores from an IBA game, even the last existing jeepney, on display at the National Museum.

Yet in the end, "Trip to Tagaytay" proves to be a charming ode to the simple things that transcend time—friendship, love, patriotism, the power of dreams—all told through Arre's distinctive, winning style. "Trip to Tagaytay" is available from all Comic Quest branches. **Ruel S. De Vera**



Cover Story, page 8

The Cover Image One of Philippine theater's driving force takes on the mantle of the tragic King Lear. But then you can expect anything from the unconventional Zeneida "Bibot" Amador.
Cover photograph by Mike Alquinto

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First Person

by Resty S. Odon

Our greatness, which explains our much-touted resilience, lies in our total lack of illusion for permanence and eminence.

The Precariousness of Being Pinoy

THE ONLY CONSTANT IN THE UNIVERSE, ONE GREEK THINKER SAID, IS CHANGE. CHANGE, HOWEVER, DOES NOT FIT THE FILIPINO'S DEFINITION OF THE UNIVERSE. UNCERTAINTY SEEMS MORE APPROPRIATE. IT HAS BEEN THE SINGLE DRIVING FORCE THAT PUMPS THE NATION'S LIFEBLOOD SUCH THAT THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY REMAIN THE SAME. UNCERTAINTY CONTINUES TO DEFINE WHO AND WHAT WE ARE. IN ITS ABSENCE, LIFE STARTS TO FEEL FUNNY AND WE TURN UNCHARACTERISTICALLY FIDGETY.

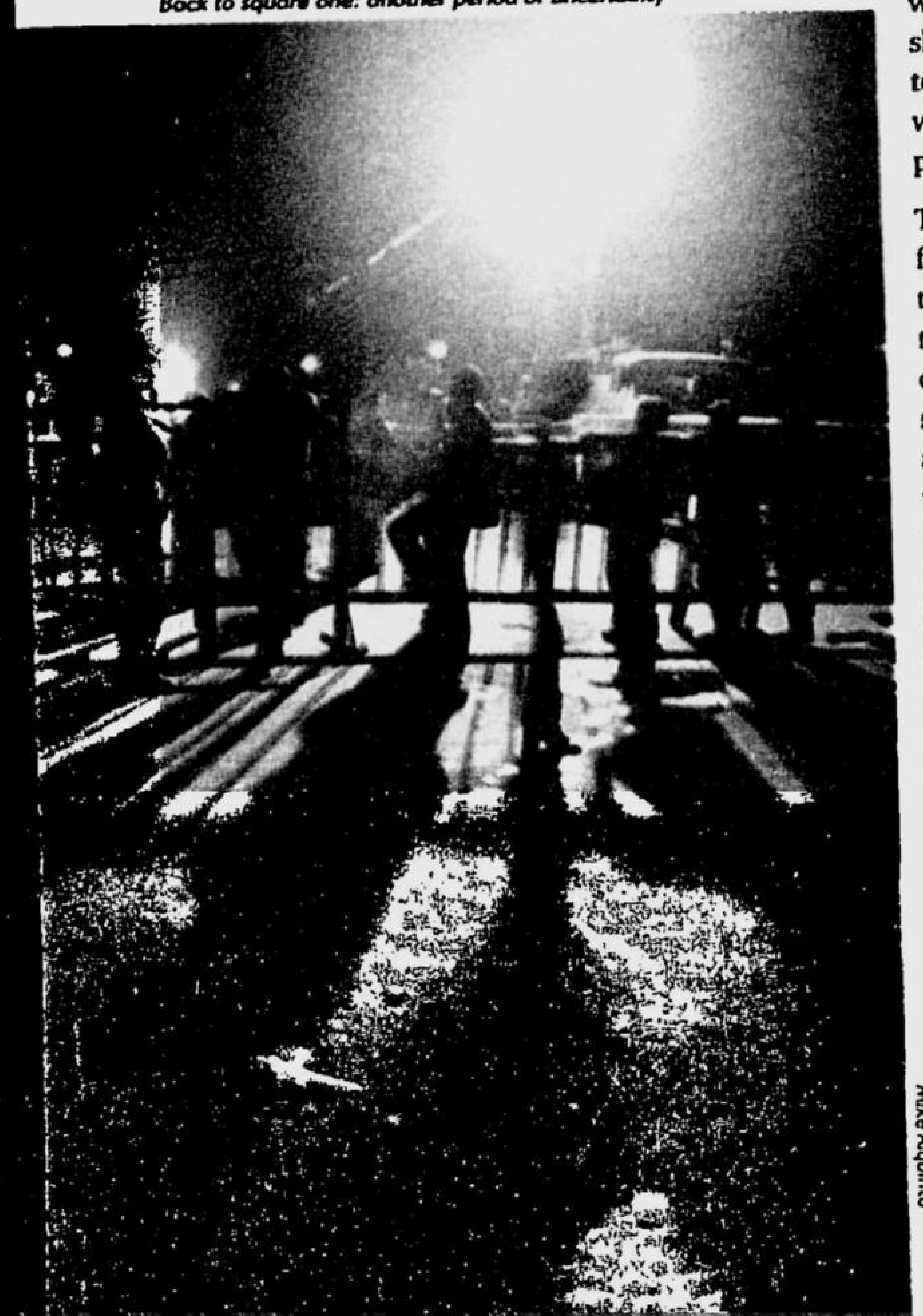
Bienvenido Santos (or was it someone else?) was really ahead of his time when he took to comparing the Pinoy to the bamboo. However, I am hesitant to extol our 'grassroots' resilience to the level of a virtue. For me, it's no more than a cultural trait conceived in the womb of uncertainty.

A paradoxical but palpable part of being Pinoy is the constant temptation to change one's nationality. It's a nightmare waking up one day to find your young nephews sporting a strange accent over the phone when they've been living in Canada for just a few months. A long time ago, I was astonished to find my father, who had been a contract worker in Saudi Arabia, naming our youngest brother Ibrahim. To my greater surprise, nobody objected to the name, not the least the baptizing priest who liked the Biblical ring to it.

Like bats that can't enter either the society of birds or beasts, Filipinos can neither be totally Asian nor Latino and certainly not Caucasians nor Africans. Nowhere is this cluelessness as glaring than in Philippine politics which I think should be patented for sheer inventiveness. Time and again, I would see this growing national idiosyncrasy and resilience against the backlash of fate. An intelligent president had proved us wrong so we resorted to, um, a more popular one. But show biz proved us wrong, too, so we're back to square one, another period of uncertainty which we are wont to celebrate—with another political circus.

(Editor's Note: We want to know what people are thinking these days. Tell us what's on your mind and in your heart. And no, you don't have to be under 30 or over 65 to contribute to this column. We welcome contributions from all ages.)

Back to square one: another period of uncertainty



Mike Alquinto

The author of "The Beach," Alex Garland, found something nice about this inconstancy, this uncertainty, calling the Philippines through his character Richard, "a democracy on paper, apparently well ordered, regularly subverted by irrational chaos..." Like Richard, we are at home with inconstancy, taking what should be surreal as matter-of-fact. And it's not just about government policies that constantly mutate with the change in administration. Our very archipelago sits on it. We are not situated on the Pacific Ring of Fire for nothing. Our islands straddle the crossroads of violent storms, including the storms of history. It's become an integral part of the Filipino psyche to contend with earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons, floods, economic downturns, coup d'etats and political chaos (i.e. elections).

Study our tongue and note how this tenor is carried through our day-today lingo. Observe the various permutations of our usual answers to absolute questions: *Baka. Ewan. Malamang. Depende. Siguro. Sige. Oo, pero... Tingnan natin.* (Perhaps. I don't know. It depends. We'll see). Surely the matter is less about just being polite than simply being unsure?

Conservationist-architect Augusto Villalon has already noted this inconstancy in terms of architecture. When we smash art deco treasures like the Metropolitan Theater with the wrecker's ball without the vaguest remorse, we are just being true to ourselves, inheritors of a peculiar past and children of the tropics through and through, where everything is rootless and rots fast, thanks to termites, a diverse array of fungi, the optimum humidity, and the most unruly, and thus corrosive, socio-political trade winds.

Pinoys are often accused of being a people without a soul but this is precisely our soul, one that thrives in the precariousness of existence. Wonder no more why we haven't produced anything great in the Western rubric of greatness. As perceptively noted by James Hamilton-Patterson in "The Ghost of Manila," we have no music to rival those of Bach and Beethoven, no epic that can stand shoulder to shoulder with Mahabharata, no structures like Angkor Wat or Borobudur, no handicraft to make the Burmese and the Thais envious.

Our greatness, which I think explains our much-touted resilience, lies in our total lack of illusion for permanence and eminence. Yes, dear structural conservationists, much as I hate it as well, there is wisdom in razing the Jai Alai fronton to the ground and it's not about the evil of gambling, either. Dear advocates of democracy, there is a trace of wisdom in Machiavellian politics and it's not about opportunism. And dear cineastes, there is wisdom in *pito-pito* (quickie) films and it's not merely about easy money.

The wisdom lies in either of two extremes: ingenuity and transcendence. "Things may never get better, so we might as well live life to the fullest, even under the worst circumstances." What is "a world-gone-berserk" to most people Filipinos call daily life; what is magical realism to Latinos, as one well-known writer puts it, we call documentary. Under such circumstances, one can only cling oh-so-tenaciously to life to survive. On the other hand, one cannot afford to stay too attached to life either. Interestingly *bahala na* (come what may)— that quintessential throwaway Pinoy attitude in times of uncertainty— straddles both extremes.

Most see the first as vice and the second as virtue, so that both heaven and hell must be teeming with Filipinos. But think again: pragmatism is surely a virtue in the face of debilitating adversity while transcendence can easily be dismissed as escapism. No matter; this dualism is the successful art of coping, bearing fruit in the form of an indomitable spirit which would help us survive both poles and all latitudes of the globe. I figure that if the Earth veered off its spin and turned upside down, there's no second-guessing who would survive. After all, we've long been historically, geographically, tectonically in training, an anomalous phylum flourishing in an archipelago carelessly tattooed onto a sea of uncertainty.

The author is a 30-year-old freelance writer who used to write "annoying abstracts for annoying technical journals," but now focuses his efforts on the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Movement.

Survivors' Tales

by Mozart A. T. Pastrano

Months after he pushed a hijacker out of a PAL plane and saved its 292 passengers, Francis Cabel recalls those tense moments before he became an accidental hero.

Terror at 6,000 Feet

THE PROBLEM BEGAN AT 3:15 P.M., WHEN PHILIPPINE AIRLINES FLIGHT 812 WAS ABOUT TO DESCEND AT THE CENTENNIAL AIRPORT IN MANILA. THE PASSENGER AT SEAT 28G, IDENTIFIED IN THE MANIFEST AS AUGUSTO LAKANDULA BUT WHO TURNED OUT TO BE REGINALD CHUA, WALKED UP THE AISLE AND DREW BACK THE CURTAIN SEPARATING THE PASSENGER CABIN AND THE FORWARD GALLEY.

> *"He poked his gun against my forehead and said, 'Mamamatay tayong lahat' (we will all die). My five-second freeze extended to two minutes. It's really different when you're in an actual situation."*

The 90-minute flight which left Davao City at 2 p.m. was at an end, and flight attendant Margaret Bueno and cabin crew trainer Ida Bernasconi were seated at the forward galley in preparation for landing. Bernasconi was conducting a briefing for Bueno. The topic, ironically, was standard operating procedures during a hijacking situation. It was a hypothetical discussion, and they went through the hypothetical steps calmly and in order.

Suddenly, Chua was at Bueno's side, pointing a gun at her. "Holdup *ito*," he said. He ordered her to stand and dragged her inside the flight deck or the cockpit, so he could issue his demands to the pilots.

Bernasconi rushed down the aisle to the rear of the plane, where the head of the cabin crew, 32-year-old Francis P. Cabel, was stationed. The two were former flight attendants who have been promoted as training and development specialists with PAL's in-flight services training department. They were to conduct a routine flight competency check on the eight cabin crew trainees on board.

Recounts Cabel: "When I saw Ida's face as she ran towards me, I knew there was an emergency situation." He had seen a similar panic-stricken face way back in 1994, when the plane he was on had an emergency: the cockpit windshield had cracked because of wind pressure. (The plane, a Manila-Cotabato flight, had to make a steep dive at 32,000 feet to maneuver a sudden landing in Cebu.)

Upon reaching the cabin rear, Bernasconi whispered to Cabel, "We have a hijacker on board, with a gun and a grenade." It was a tense moment. Says Cabel, "I had, like, a five-second freeze. I could not believe what I heard. My initial reaction was to reject the very idea. It could not happen to me, to this flight. *Imposible ito!*"

But he quickly recovered his wits. Gathering the crew at the rear, he broke the news and told them not to panic. He also instructed them not to let anyone on board use a cellular phone. Inside the flight deck, he saw Chua pointing a gun at Captain Butch Generoso. Also in the cockpit were Capt. Edwin Nadurata who was navigating the aircraft, and First Officer Caloy Meri. Generoso was a check pilot doing a license check on Nadurata during the flight.

"At the flight deck door, I saw (Chua) and he saw me," Cabel remembers. "He poked his gun against my forehead and said, '*Mamamatay tayong lahat*' (we will all die). My five-second freeze extended to two minutes. It's really different when you're in an actual situation." Cabel could not see Chua's face which was covered by a ski mask. Whether the mask was greenish black, dark blue or olive green, Cabel has difficulty remembering now. But one thing he is certain of even today: "His eyes were sharp. He meant business."

Right then and there, Cabel thought of his three children, his parents, his brother and two sisters. "I pitied them. *Basta na lang sila maiiwan.*" The feeling of helplessness promptly gave way to anger. "We were circling over Metro Manila. I saw Makati, the airport, Quezon City. So near yet so far, you know the feeling. *Parang konti na lang, puede bang* i-landing *mo na? Galit ako.* (I was angry.)" But he knew he had to keep his feelings to himself. He could see Chua's left hand holding a grenade, without its pin on, and the right hand waving a gun about.

It was then that Cabel, born of an Ilocano father and a Cebuana mother, had an idea. He spoke to Chua in Cebuano, guessing it was the hijacker's mother tongue: *"Bay, igsoon ta. Wa untay mahitabo sa atong* flight. *Wa untay masakitan. Unsa bay imong problema kay ako tikang tabangan* (Brother, don't let anything bad happen to our flight. Tell me your problem and I'll help you)." Chua replied that his problem was money.

"If that's your problem, I'll help you," said Cabel, who took out his wallet, plucked out all his cash and handed them over to Chua. "Here, this is my children's tuition money but I'll give it to you."

Cabel then announced to the other passengers over the plane's pub-

Cabel shows how the hijacker's body was bent by strong wind pressure when he opened the plane's door.

Lyn Rillon

lic address (PA) system that someone on board needed money. The cabin crew collected "voluntary contributions" from the passengers. The word "hijack" was not used at all, and the money collection was made calmly. While the money was being collected, Chua demanded that the plane fly back to Davao. Captain Nadurata told him they had barely 45 minutes of fuel left.

Chua then asked the crew to get the black backpack he had left on his seat. He discarded its contents: jeans, a pair of slippers, and several t-shirts. The bag turned out to be a homemade parachute. He asked the crew to put it on him.

"He was intoxicated," recalls Cabel. "I could smell liquor on him. He was still threatening us with the grenade and the gun. At this point, he accidentally pulled the trigger and the gun went off. Only the flight deck door was hit and we were telling ourselves, 'We're alive! We're alive!' "

But Chua had changed his mind and demanded to be flown to Samar. The pilot maneuvered the plane towards the Antipolo area and said it was Samar. *"I-landing mo riyan,"* Chua ordered. But the pilot told him they could not land in a mountainous area. "The guy knew what he was doing," says Cabel. "First he demanded we go down to 10,000 feet. And then he instructed us to level off at 7,000 feet. We ended at 6,000 feet. Then he wanted the rear door to be opened. I'd say it was a planned move. He brought along a parachute. He really intended to jump."

Someone had to open the rear door. "Of the four flight crew in the cockpit, the three pilots and myself, I was the least important person," rues Cabel, who had to do it.

After he made a PA announcement that the rear door be prepared, Cabel began what he

To page 12

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For A Cause

by Samira Ali Gutoc

A group of young Muslim professionals has launched a web site to make themselves more visible to the world

The Crescent in Cyberspace

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Mai and Salem, who are in their 20s and 30s, typify the yuppie Muslim (Yuplim, for short) of the hi-tech information age. Though their names easily give away their identities, yuplims in non-Muslim urban centers are working to battle the old image of Muslims as war freaks.

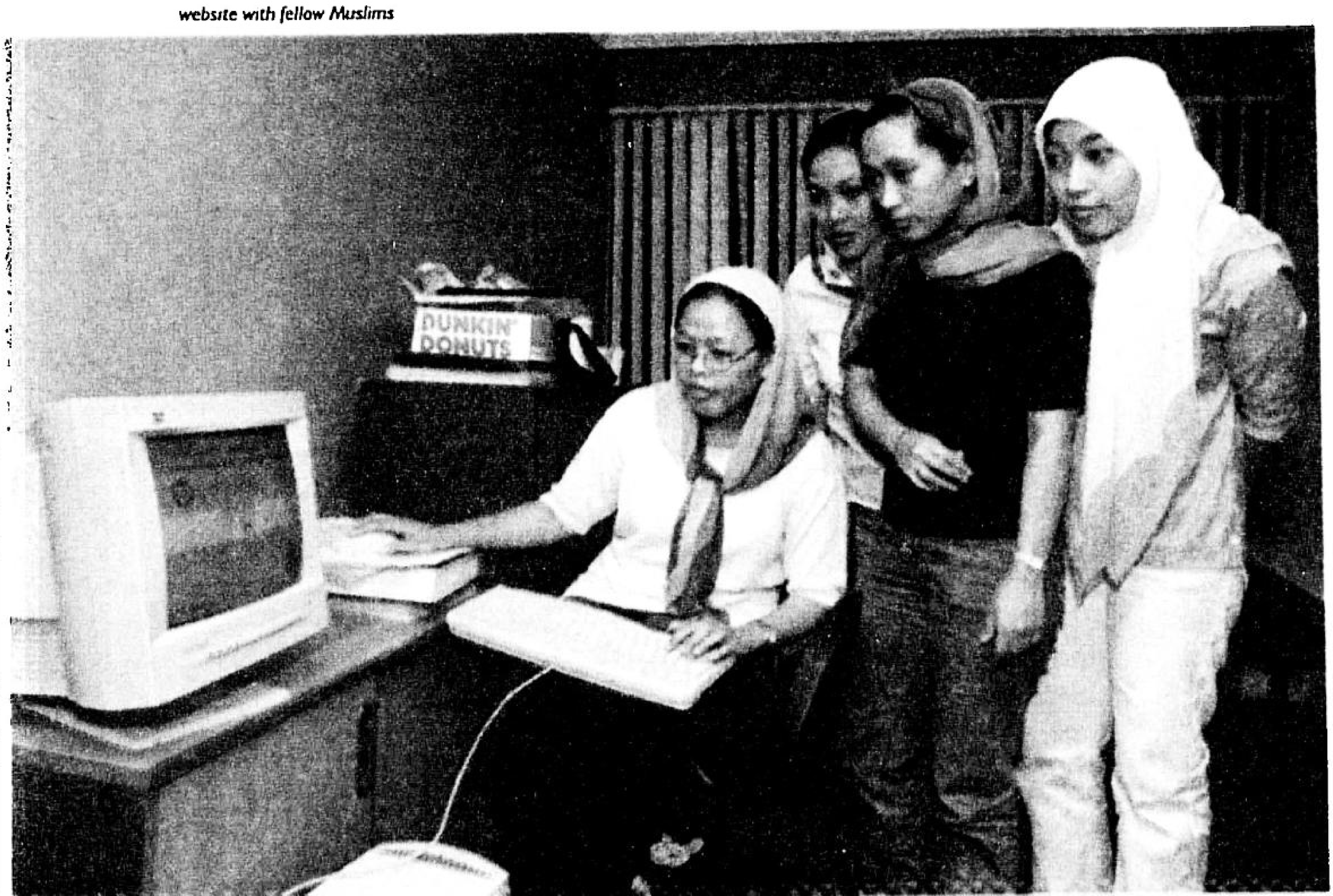
The past months have seen yuplims in rallies, not only in recent "Erap-resign" mobilizations but also in rallies calling for peace at the height of the GRP-MILF conflict. "We became indignant over the crisis transpiring in Mindanao. We could no longer go on our day-to-day work, ignoring the cries of our *kababayan* refugees," said Jehanne Mutin of Lanao del Sur, one of the convenors of the Young Professionals in D' Metro. The newly formed network envisions solutions for uplifting the plight of Muslims.

There is no exact figure on the number of Filipino Muslims today, but the country's Office on Muslim Affairs approximates them at 10 million. Information on Muslim communities remains very limited, complained Moti. "How, for example, can a Malaysian investor find a *halal* (allowable food for Muslims) restaurant in Cebu or Davao when there's no database?"

Creating yet another organization is not the ultimate solution. One major challenge is reaching the more than one million Muslims in the metropolis, making their voices heard on key issues facing Mindanao and their group.

The solution, thought a group of yuplims, is a medium that can facilitate networking and information exchange among Muslims working in different fields. A website. "Our presence in information technology must be felt," said Mutin. The website, <www.bangsamoro.com>, was launched in November in Makati. Although the name conjures radical ideas, the site seeks to be a venue for diverse opinions with chat rooms on various Muslim issues in the media, human rights, culture, history and music. "We have to write our stories from our own point of view, not from non-Muslims," said Moti.

Mutin (second from left) views their website with fellow Muslims



Betoy Johnson

The website is apolitical. "Whether your (politics) is Left, Right or off-center, it doesn't matter; the website is open to all Muslims and those interested to know more about Muslims," said Mutin.

It was perfect timing; the launch of the network coincided with the start of the holy month of Ramadhan when Muslim communities are required to abstain from food, water and "evil acts" for 12 hours every day. The network hopes to launch *iftars* (break of fast dinners) in key areas such as Metro Manila campuses.

Yuplims regard professional and academic excellence as an unwritten goal. The new crop of Muslims has to defy wrong impressions even in so-called intellectual circles. Lawyer Adel Tamano of Estelito Mendoza's law firm, recalled that many of his colleagues were surprised to know that he's Muslim. Taking up Masters or Law has become a trend. "Nobody thought of training Muslims first before giving them self-governance," said TOSP awardee Dr. Noralyn Sharief, who operates six medical clinics and a training center in Lanao del Sur and other parts of Mindanao. Some Moro academics trace the "failure of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao" to the lack of a professional think tank base. "We don't even have a Muslim development plan," former NEDA worker Assad Baunto noted.

Strong clan connections still influence Muslim professionals so that many of them expressed outright dismay over the displacement of more than 300,000 Mindanaons in the war in Central Mindanao and Sulu. "Many of the victims are our relatives," said Sulu volunteer Desdemona Dinggi of the UP Islamic Studies.

Yuplims in Metro Manila are products of mass migration from beleaguered Mindanao in the '70s during the martial law years. Fleeing war, Muslim parents sought education, business and employment opportunities in the metropolis. Later, Sen. Mamintal Tamano's proposed Commission on National Integration paved the way for thousands of Moro (now a term for Muslim-Mindanaons in the Philippines) students to attain scholarships. While their counterparts in Mindanao nurtured the revolutionary movement that was the MNLF, the Manila students dorming in the University Belt area in Recto became the first batch of Muslim professionals.

Many excelled and made their mark. Former Sen. Santanina Rasul authored the bill allowing the entry of women in the Philippine Military Academy. Lawyers Macapanton Abbas and Blo Adiong defended landmark cases on political law. Student activists, who would later become prominent Moro leaders led street marches to protest human rights violations by government in Mindanao.

Unfortunately, history books have not chronicled much of the Muslim legacy. For instance, Islam came to the Philippines as early as 1380 with the arrival of Sheikh Makhdum in Sulu waters. "Let us not forget the six centuries of Moro struggle against colonialism to fight for our religion," said Don Loong of the National Anti-Poverty Commission.

Many yuplims show the same commitment to current issues. Through rallies and manifestos, they have expressed indignation over recent revelations that P200 million from *jueteng* money have been purportedly set aside for Muslim scholarships. "We can't forgive what was done to us Muslims— from the government's total-war policy to a policy of attraction," said Moro activist Amirah Lidasan of Maguindanao.

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By Webmaster Raymond Steinbacher, and the research staff at Green Tree Press, Inc.

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Cover Story

by Alya B. Honasan

As Zeneida Amador [illegible] as King Lear, the Filipino theater maverick, mentor, mother, friend and self-confessed coward (no kidding!) talks [illegible] about life on and off the stage

The Importance of Being Bibot

IT WAS, BEYOND ANY DOUBT, A CASTING COUP OF MAJESTIC PROPORTIONS. YET, SITTING AT THE OFFICE OF REPERTORY PHILIPPINES, THE 33-YEAR-OLD THEATER COMPANY OF WHICH SHE IS FOUNDER, PRESIDENT, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND DRIVING FORCE, ZENEIDA "BIBOT" AMADOR ADMITS, THROUGH THE OMNIPRESENT HAZE OF CIGARETTE SMOKE, THAT SHE HAD HER DOUBTS.

When director Anton Juan first offered her the title role in World Theater Project's production of William Shakespeare's "King Lear," now playing at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), Bibot's response was: "Are you mad?"

"I didn't know if I had the energy or the attention span to memorize those lines," she explains. "When you're a producer and administrator, and then you have to sit down and think of nothing else and concentrate for hours on end— the labor of it!"

"If you're loved, you're secure. I'm not insecure that I'm ugly, for example, because my folks loved me."

Upon consultation, her closest friends, advisers and colleagues in Rep, Baby Barredo and Joy Virata, echoed the reaction of many theater insiders: "Why not?" "Baby said that I should work with other directors and actors, since I'm so used to my own style. I saw sense in that. It's a challenge, and it would be nice to see if I can do it. So, like the mountain, it was there."

Which brings us to the essential question of how she felt about playing a man. "Lear is at the age where his gender is almost neutral. Playing a man was not a problem; I'm kind of a rough person anyway," she guffaws. "The real problem was the lines. Lear has so many facets—in the beginning he's arrogant, then he goes mad, and finally there's reconciliation and redemption for him. The classic view of the tragedy is that when one loses everything, that's when he gains spirituality. It's very much against materialism, and in this day and age, that's an excellent value to talk about, don't you think?"

Bibot is confident that she can handle the emotional roller coaster that the protagonist must ride out. "It requires an amplitude of feeling which, when one has reached a certain age, one should at least understand." Does being a woman help? "Yes—the feeling parts in the end are helped by the fact that I am a woman."

Bibot was never one to agonize over not being a regular girl growing up in Manila. "I was never introspective personally, although I am (so) about everything else — this play, this book, this concept, why the world is like this. About myself, no. Only about faults, but never about what I am supposed to be." She does recall her mother getting on her case about reading so much that she wouldn't bother to comb her hair. "She said my hair would become a nest for rats! But when people would ask her why I wasn't married, her answer was '*Wala kayong pakialam*' (it's none of your business). She defended us to the hilt."

One of two sons and two daughters of Judge Amado Amador and Enriqueta Angara Amador, a niece of First Lady Aurora Aragon Quezon, Bibot recalls a childhood that was "very happy—until my father was murdered." That "scar" on her childhood was inflicted when Bibot was about 11, when men her father had sent to prison shot him dead. "My brothers were saying, we have to find the guy who did it. I remember saying, 'What for? It's done.' Later we learned they had been killed by guerrillas. I think that was an early lesson in life. You don't have to do anything about evil-doers; they take care of themselves." Even now, Bibot says in a soft voice, "I hate negatives in my life. I shrink from them because they don't do me any good. It's not practical. One should go through life lighter."

Today, Bibot surmises she inherited her uncompromising work ethic from her father, a very honest man who once got very angry when Bibot's tutor used his professional stationery to solve math exercises. "He said I had no right to bring it out of the office because it was government property," she stresses the last two words. "I was 10, and I remember being in awe of the very clear delineation between what was and wasn't ours." Her mother was very loving, but also no-nonsense, endlessly drilling the children for Sunday lunches in Malacañang Palace with their granduncle, President Quezon. After Bibot's father died, her mother had told her children, "I can send you all to school, but I won't have time to tutor you or inspect your notebooks. But you are given one chance to go to school, and it's up to you to use it or throw it away." Both Amador boys became lawyers, one girl became an architect, "and I don't know what I am," Bibot concludes.

She had, however, wanted to be in theater ever since she played an angel in a school play at age 4. But she also loved to read, ever since their father first read Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" to them, "complete with drama in his voice, and he knew just where to end the reading for the night. I couldn't wait, so I must have been 10 when I lumbered through 'Les Mis' myself."

Bibot went on to college at the University of Santo Tomas to study literature and psychology, the former being "a natural inclination for someone who loved to read." She was basking in the light of theater pioneers like the Avellanas of the Barangay Theater Guild and Narciso Pimentel of Dramatic Philippines. Already teaching at her high school alma mater St. Joseph's College but hankering for a chance to work in the United States, Bibot got a job teaching master's classes in English literature and Shakespeare at the University of

Her life's a stage: Bibot, the director, takes a break

South Dakota. It was in 1967 that she established Repertory Philippines, with that now-famous opening night attended by only four people. "I felt that if you were going to do theater, you should do it by season— how can you develop an audience when you only do it when you feel like it?"

The rest is theater history. "The theater scene is really busy now, though I don't think any of us is making much money, *isang kahig, isang tuka pa rin.*" But what of the perception that Rep is the most financially stable theater company in town? "Well, yes, in the sense that we can keep doing plays, we can pay people."

Also at the heart of Rep is the professional and personal partnership between Bibot and Baby Barredo. "We're really friends, and have been for years and years," Bibot says. Their own friends don't ask her to define the relationship, she says. "People may not believe it, but *para kaming magkapatid.* I don't even bother explaining it to people. You think what you want. We're like sisters, certainly partners in art, in the office. She has her friends, I have my friends. We ask each other for advice, can comment without the other getting mad. You see," Bibot segues unexpectedly, "I'm a coward— a lily-livered coward— and I hate to go out on a limb when nobody's confirming what I'm doing, so I rely on people like Baby, Joy, my sister-in-law."

But don't get her wrong; Bibot can still raise hell. "I'm very serious about work here—I don't allow anybody to be mediocre or sloppy. When you enter a profession, you have to be professional! So many people are so laid back about what they should deliver. I tell them, I don't want to scream, but don't do things that will provoke me." So what still makes Bibot scream? "Lack of professionalism, people not keeping their word. Conversely, people who show a lot of creativity and resourcefulness make me happy." Like the carpenter who devised an ingenious fly system to cover the web in Rep's recent production of "Kiss of the Spiderwoman," she cites. "You can find creativity anywhere. One's station in life and the state of one's pocket have nothing to do with it."

If there's any mellowing down that has happened, Bibot credits it to parenthood to adopted teenaged daughter Charlie, 15, and son Etienne, six months younger. "Baby always liked children," Bibot explains of the adoption. "It was a great humbling lesson for me because I thought I didn't like children—until I saw Charlie with her hair standing up, looking so vulnerable!" They told the children early on that they were adopted. "But we told them while we were holding them close," Bibot says. "We told them they were special, that we didn't have to get them but we did, because we loved them very much. They believed that, and they can say proudly that they are adopted."

Having a ball (left) with stage actresses Liza Infante and Ana Abad Santos. Above, Etienne and Charlie in Spain.

Legally, Etienne is Bibot's son and Charlie, Baby's daughter, but Bibot is "Tata" and Baby "Mama" to both. "They really do think of each other as brother and sister, and when they need a lesson they get it. We tell them, you don't have to be at the top of your class, but you must pass because that's your job." Echoing her own mother, Bibot did tell the kids that their life is their own choice. "If you want, you can become a driver or maid, *bahala kayo.* I finally got to use that line!" Before he was a year old, Etienne had life-saving open-heart surgery to repair blood vessels under his heart. "In a sense, which I like, I gave him life," Bibot says.

Today, the unorthodox family lives in the house in Magallanes which Bibot's sister designed and built two years ago. "Finally, our own place after 30 years—and that's two of us working *pa!*" she says of herself and Baby. They go on annual vacations, as Bibot believes in travel as a learning experience. "But those two kids are a help, not a hindrance. They watch the bags; when we rent an apartment, Etienne throws the garbage and Charlie washes the dishes." Days are spent traveling and sightseeing. "I want them to look back on their childhood and say they felt free and loved. If you're loved, you're secure. I'm not insecure that I'm ugly, for example, because my folks loved me." The rest of the children's destiny, then, will be up to "God's will and luck. Oh yes, I believe in luck, classically. Sophocles said that a man's destiny is 50 percent chance and 50 percent character. If you have only one, you'll fail."

Downtime for Bibot nowadays is spent gardening and playing with the family shih tzu, Picasso. She still dreams, as she has since Rep's birth, of "developing more audiences for the theater, and finding corporate sponsors who don't have to have their arms twisted." "King Lear" director Anton Juan first acted for Bibot in a Rep production of "Mother Courage," and Bibot is now learning a lot from having the tables turned. "That's why I memorized my lines so as not to hassle him, because I know how directors feel. I think he appreciated that. *Artista lang naman ako,* so I just do what I'm told. I don't have a problem being a soldier!" This soldier's march into Pinoy theater history is an event not to be missed.

Mike Alquinto

World Theater Project's production of William Shakespeare's "King Lear," directed by Anton Juan, opened last Jan. 11 and goes onstage until Jan. 28 at the CCP Little Theater. For tickets, call 832-1125 and 633-4821.

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36-39	121.90	1,380.00	243.80	2,760.00	487.60	5,520.00	731.40	8,280.00	975.20	11,040.00	1,219.00	13,800.00
40-43	151.90	1,720.00	303.80	3,440.00	607.60	6,880.00	911.40	10,320.00	1,215.20	13,760.00	1,519.00	17,200.00
44-47	193.90	2,196.00	387.80	4,392.00	775.60	8,784.00	1,163.40	13,176.00	1,551.20	17,568.00	1,939.00	21,960.00
48-50	231.90	2,624.00	463.80	5,248.00	927.60	10,496.00	1,391.40	15,744.00	1,855.20	20,992.00	2,319.00	26,240.00
51-53	277.90	3,144.00	555.80	6,288.00	1,111.60	12,576.00	1,667.40	18,864.00	2,223.20	25,152.00	2,779.00	31,440.00
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Sundered Light

— after "Finding the Bear" by Gail Thomas

So often, women are defined
by the size of the diamond

handcuffed to a finger.
Gold or platinum, the trap

remains an implacable circle.
I am pleased to discover

Santa Barbara as the patron for
lightning, female scholars, the impenitent—

sources of rupture, a sisterhood
I join when I sunder light

by raising a palm against the sun.

Eileen R. Tabios

Talinhaga ng Manok

para kay Erap

Kinakahig, tinutuka ng manok
ang natapong darak sa tabi ng daan
napapaulap niya ito sa bawat kumpas
ng mga kukong ikinakaskas.

Hindi alintana ng inahen
na ang darak niyang tinutuka
nakalatag sa putikang lupa.

Kaya anak, tandaan mo
napupuno ng mumunting bato
hindi matutunaw ng kaniyang tiyan
maliwan sa loob ng balunbalunan.

Masdan ang mga sisiw na sunud-sunuran
kanilang inaanino ang bawat kilos
nitong inaheng waring nagpapayo:

> "Iturok ang maliliit ninyong tuka
> sa nahulog na grasyang pana-panahon
> 'di baleng may batong sahog sa bawat lulon."

Dumating na sa atin, mga anak, ang panahon:
ang lahat ng naisubo, hindi lahat matutunaw
butil-butil na maiipon habang nabubuhay.

Pakatandaan lamang, sa lahat ng bagay—

Isang kahig,
isang tuka
at isang kurot ng lupa.

Noel R. del Prado

SURVIVORS...from page 5

describes as the longest walk of his life: down the aisle from the cockpit to the rear entrance, with Chua's left hand slung over his neck and clutching a grenade, while his right hand pinned a gun against Cabel's right ribs. The passengers were instructed to bend down and not look at the two.

Since he joined PAL in 1993, Cabel has never come across any procedure where the rear door—or any plane door and window, for that matter—would be opened during flight. To do so would endanger cabin pressure, and throw the whole plane into a fit of imbalance. Whoever did so would also be sucked out of the aircraft because of what is called "pressure differential."

At the rear entry, Cabel pressed the speakerphone. When he said, "Captain, permission to open door," Captain Nadurata replied, "Open door when ready." Cabel was stupefied. "I thought, 'Oh, my God, he means business.' *Talagang pabubuksan sa akin.*"

It was the toughest decision of his life. "It was a gamble I had to make. If I don't do it, we'd all die." But opening the door posed substantial risks to himself. "And so at gunpoint, I grabbed the operating handle, pulled it open and closed my eyes." He had initially thought of opening the rear door while sitting on one of the pullback chairs for flight attendants. But his background in engineering—he graduated with a degree in electrical engineering in 1990 from Adamson University, where he was a working student--told him that once he opened the rear door, the strong wind pressure would slam the door right back inside. Which was what happened. Had he been seated, he would have been squashed to death.

Cabel instead stood by the other wall and clung on to a shoulder harness. When he opened the rear door, the plane was cruising at 230 knots at 6,500 feet—roughly 450 km per hour on land. The wind pressure swept Cabel off his feet and he found himself flying in the rear passageway, held in position only by the shoulder harness he was clinging on to. A flight attendant strapped on a pullback chair nearby grabbed his belt to keep him from flying off. He was half a meter from the door ledge.

When the wind pressure inside the cabin had stabilized, Cabel realized that Chua had rushed back to the passenger cabin. "He was surprised. He did not expect me to open the door. So I told him, 'The door is open. *Talon na*! (jump!)' And he came back to the rear door." The door was now jammed against the rear exit in a particular way, scooping air inside the plane. Chua went behind the door, where there was less wind pressure, and craned his neck outside the plane. He was instantly blown away by the wind in such a way that his face and chest were slumped against the outside wall of the plane while the rest of his body below the waist was pressed inside the plane.

"*Natiklop siya* (his body was bent in half) ," says Cabel. "He had left his gun but he was still clutching the grenade. When I saw that, I feared it might explode. So I immediately pushed his hand and lower extremities off the plane. It was a split-moment decision."

Cabel then staggered back to the relative safety of the cabin's rear passageway and gave a thumbs-up sign to the other flight crew. "Nobody said a word," he recalls. "No one screamed or cried in relief. There was just a stunned silence. I was numb."

The plane was still not out of danger. Was there enough fuel for it to swing back to the Centennial Airport and land there? Thankfully, there was. The one-hour ordeal was over.

When he got home, Cabel's daughter, a third grader, handed him a note. "Dear daddy, I was afraid when I heard about the bad guy in your plane. But I was happy when you fought him. You are my hero."

It was then that tears streamed down Cabel's face. For the next full hour, he just hugged his children, saying nothing but laughing and horsing around. He would eventually go to Mass and to confession, where the priest would reassure him that he had committed no sin. A former seminarian at the La Salette of Jones High School in Isabela, Cabel felt relieved. By late evening of his heroic deed, he went bar-hopping. "My friends teased me, calling me Mr. Pusher. But I just did what I had to do."

Yet Cabel confesses that he was himself stunned at what he did. "I could not believe what happened," he recalls. "In a crisis situation," he says now, months after the incident, "There's only one thing to do—get rid of the problem."

On that fateful afternoon of May 25 last year, he did just that, and quite literally, too.

The Word

by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Forgiving Our Priests

Like the rest of us, priests have feet of clay, hearts of flesh and the need to be forgiven.

LAST AUGUST 4, 2000, THE FEAST DAY OF ST. JOHN MARIE VIANNEY, THE MANILA CLERGY GATHERED FOR A JUBILEE RENEWAL AT THE SAN CARLOS SEMINARY IN GUADALUPE, MAKATI WHERE, AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES, THEY PUBLICLY CONFESSED THEIR SINS TO GOD AND TO ONE ANOTHER. THEY ASKED FOR THE GRACE TO FORGIVE AND BE FORGIVEN. IT WAS CALLED *CONFESSIO PECCATI*. IT WAS NOT A SECRET RITUAL. ALTHOUGH IT WAS DIRECTLY ADDRESSED TO "OUR DEAR PEOPLE OF GOD," THE LAITY WERE NOT INVITED SIMPLY BECAUSE THE GATHERING WAS A PRAYER VIGIL FOR PRIESTS.

That is why I am now inviting the men and women lay faithful in the Church to eavesdrop and listen prayerfully to the *confessio peccati* of their priests so they may see with new eyes and understand that, like the rest of us, we priests have feet of clay, hearts of flesh and the need to be forgiven too.

Please read this *confessio* in the spirit of the Confiteor or the Prayer of the Faithful. Visualize us, your pastors, making our confession on our knees before you, the laity. As you are reading this *confessio*, pause once in a while, and say in your hearts: "Jesus, our Good Shepherd, guide and sanctify our pastors."

CONFESSIO PECCATI

"Our dear People of God:

As we celebrate the Jubilee of Priests
on August 4, the feast day of our patron
St. John Mary Vianney,
we your priests wish to ask from you,
our beloved brothers and sisters,
and from God,
pardon and forgiveness for our faults
and failures as priests of the holy Church.
We were called
To be the mirrors of Jesus the Good Shepherd.
We admit and strike our breasts in shame
as we admit that we your priests
have not been your good shepherds
but have become lost shepherds ourselves.

Left Choir: We admit that we have not shielded ourselves
from the sacrilegious celebration
of the sacred mysteries of our faith.
In our desire to give you the blessings
of the Church
and the presence of the Lord in the sacraments,
we have neglected our own spiritual lives
and have reduced ourselves
to mere functionaries in the Church.
We are not only functionaries of rituals.
We should be sacraments of God for you.

Right Choir: We beg the gentle and merciful Lord
to forgive us for our arrogance towards the poor,
the uneducated
and the powerless.
We allowed ourselves to be blinded
by the lure of money,
political influence
and Church power
in exchange for simplicity of life
and poverty of spirit.

We are ashamed
of the reality of abusive
and unworthy administration
of the temporal goods of the Church
for personal welfare
rather than for the good of the poor.
We are ashamed to admit the luxury
of our priestly lifestyle.
How can we say we bear witness
to the blessedness of poverty
when our rectories and schools betray
the fortune of those who are rich and wealthy?

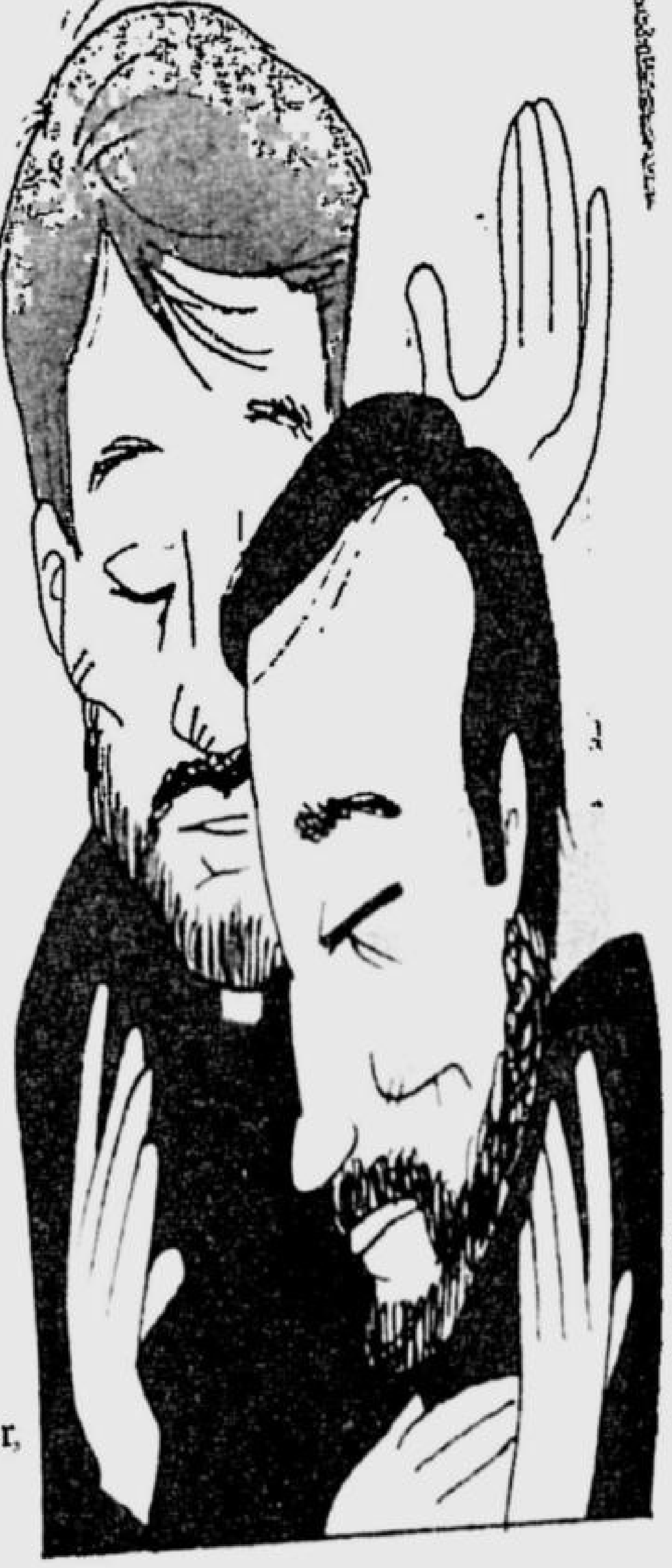


Illustration by Steph Bravo

Left Choir: We beg the Lord to forgive us
for our failure to live lives of continence
for the sake of the kingdom.
A few of our brother priests
have been exposed by the media
for sexual misconduct.
Many of those whom we should serve
are suffering quietly and alone
due to our grave abuse of their trust,
their friendship
and their respect for the holy priesthood.
We bow our heads in shame, in guilt and sadness
and ask these our brethren to forgive us.

Right Choir: We must be first and foremost
pastors and teachers.
We confess that there have been times
in the recent past
when we appeared to be
more like politicians than priests;
we sounded more like businessmen than pastors.
We know we displeased God
and confused you because of these actuations.

Left Choir: We plead with our brother-priests
to forgive us, too. We have done
to our own brothers
what we do not like done to us.
Instead of talking to priests in crisis,
we talked about them.
Instead of partnership in ministry,
we have chosen competition.

To page 14

Piano

Keys, as though nothing will fit
and turn the lock.

We all know about the pianist
who lifted the lid, set the watch
to exactly 4'33" then stared
at the even teeth of his instrument.

The people waited anxiously
for notes to tiptoe on the stage.
when the time ran out
he closed the heavy lid and left.

They heard nothing.
or rather, they strained their ears
and something slipped.
Then murmurs.

Nearly deaf and having almost
drawn all curtains,
Edison hired a pianist to play
the great waltzes for him. As loud
as possible.

He had been working
hard on his musical invention.

When suddenly he fell
on his knees and sank his teeth
deep into the wood.
Maybe to feel the shiver
better.

The piano has spine.
It stands upright and grand.

Allan Popa

Pina

sim
sim
mo ako,
aking
mahal,
ng matamis na alak
nalanghap ko ang
nakalalango nitong samyo
(Waring ikaw sa kaloob-looban ko)
sa pagdaiti ng labi sa gilid ng kopita
(nadama ko ang alab ng iyong pagtatangi)
habang nilalaru-laro ng aking dila
ang dumadaloy na likido
(nagsasanib ang ating puso at isip)
sa pagkakatitig sa iyong mga mata
nadama ko ang langit.

Lilia F. Antonio

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine is accepting contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed a copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

THE WORD...from page 13

In the transition of parishes
from one pastor to another,
we confess that we have been inconsiderate
to our predecessors and successors.
Many of us have started our ministries
in new assignments
as if nothing good had been done
by our predecessors.
We are ashamed to admit this.
It saddens us to accept this.
We ask pardon from God and
from our brother-priests.

Right Choir: We beg our Cardinal Archbishop
to forgive us too.
We plead with him to forgive us
when we talked unkindly of him
and contributed to gossip about him.
We admit being disobedient at times
and deliberately staying away from meetings
for our ongoing formation
and for the pastoral care of God's people.

Left Choir: Our *confessio peccati*
would be gravely incomplete
without making this jubilee message
a *confessio laudis* too.
We extol the heroism of Fr. Vicente Planta
who endured sickness for so many years
faithfully and lovingly
with cheerfulness and obedience.
We remember Bishop Bienvenido Lopez
and his pastoral solicitude.
We remember fondly
the gentleness of Msgr. Alfredo Reyes,
pastor of Sta. Rita in Quezon City for so long.
We remember with great admiration and fondness
the charity of Msgr. Jose Jovellanos
who never sent anybody away
without a gift or alms.

All: These priests are our pride.
They give us reason to thank God.
Our dear people of God,
like the bride in the Song of Songs,
we your pastors exclaim
"We are black and stained but we are beautiful."
We have stained our priesthood
with the filth of our sinful humanity.
We know and we believe
that we remain beautiful and lovely.
It is God who makes us beautiful.
It is your steadfast love for us
that makes us lovely.

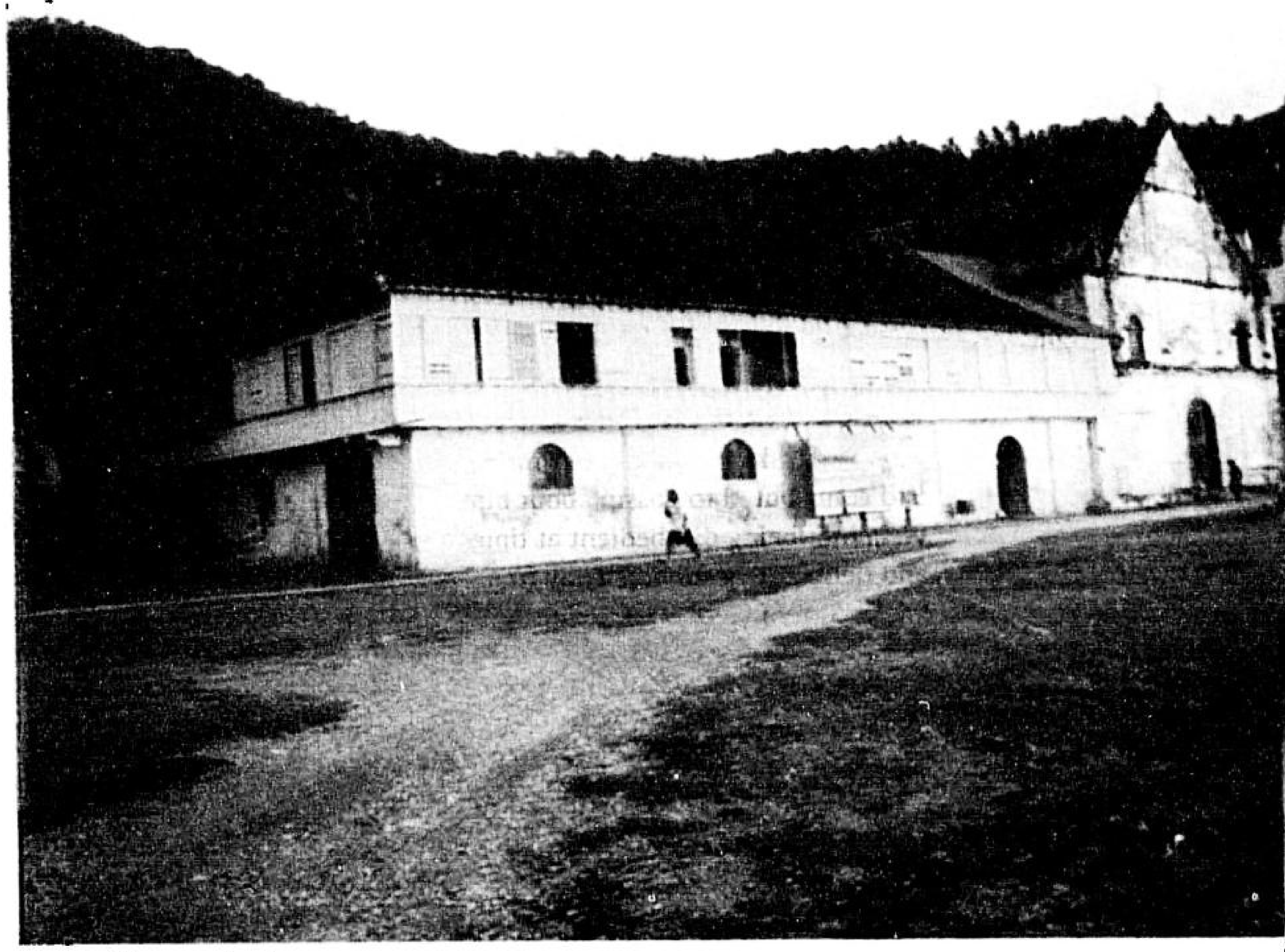
We love you.
Please pardon us.
Beg God to forgive us
in this Jubilee season of grace."

Note: While confessio peccati *means a public declaration of wrongdoing (sin),* confessio laudis *means a public declaration of gratitude and joy. Let us claim these attitudes during these dark and difficult times.*

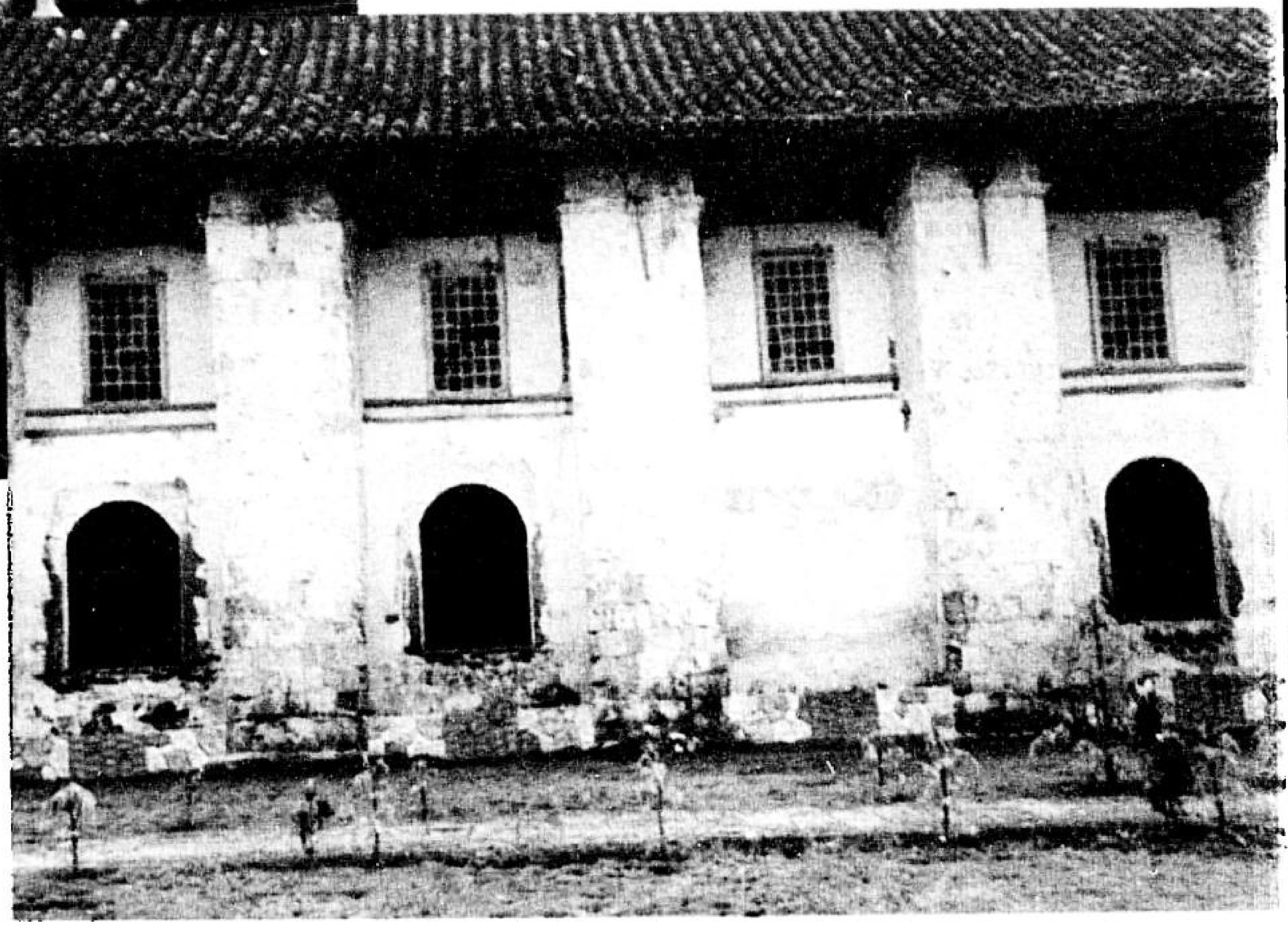
This is Your Heritage

by Bambi L. Harper

Church of Our Lady of Patronicio Boljoon, Cebu



The austere façade of the church



Fortress-like appearance owes much to once-frequent Muslim raids

THE EARLY MORNING LIGHT CATCHES THE SOCIETY SPLENDOR OF THE 18TH-CENTURY AUGUSTINIAN CHURCH AND CONVENT IN BOLJOON, WHICH FACES THE SEA. THE AUSTERE FAÇADE WITH ITS FLORAL AND GEOMETRIC DECORATIONS BELIES THE SPLENDOR OF ITS BAROQUE INTERIORS: THE GILDED ALTARS, THE FINE TRACERY RAILINGS OF THE PULPIT AND CHOIR, THE ORIGINAL POLYCHROME *SANTOS* AND FRESCOED CEILINGS.

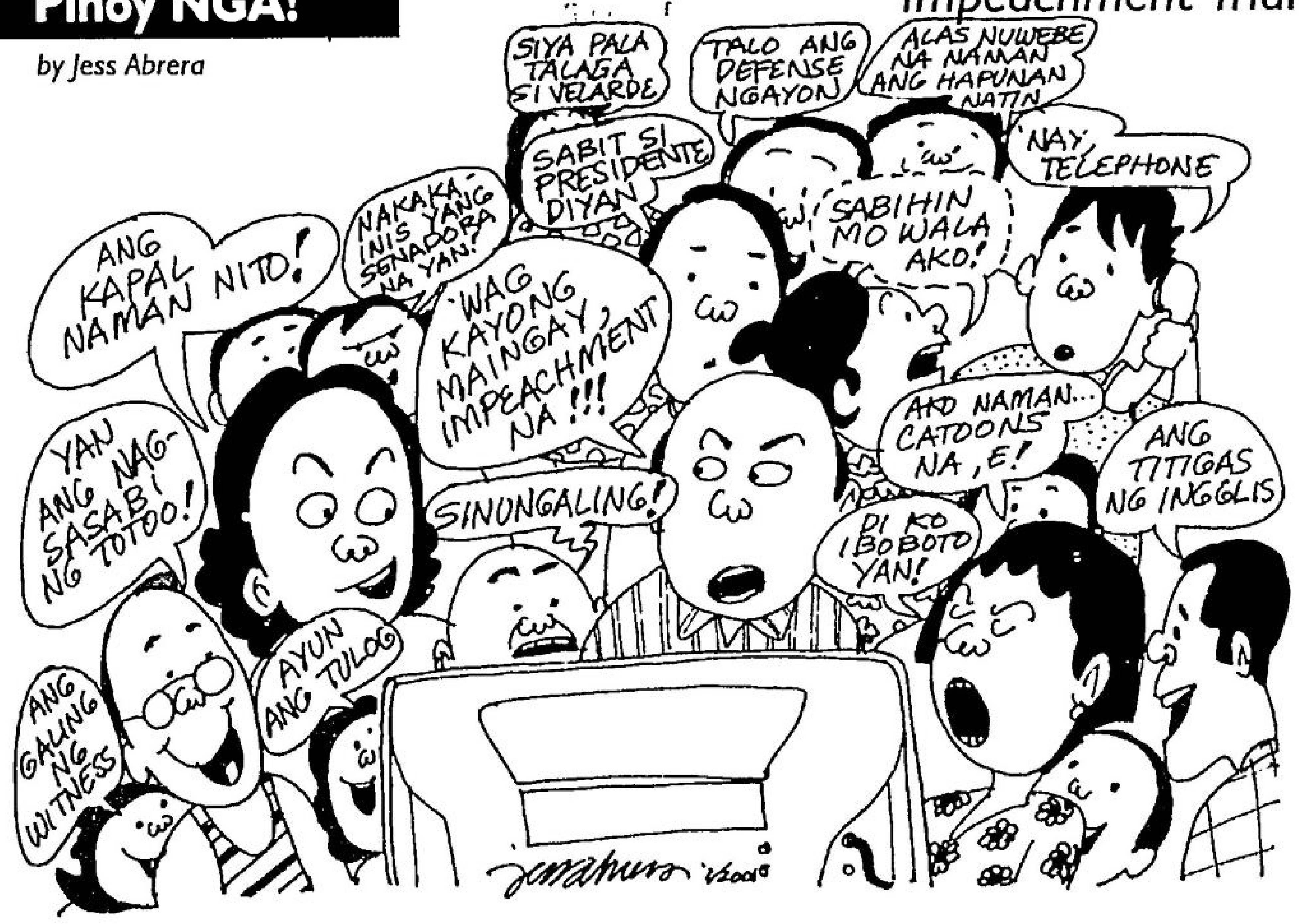
The fortress-like appearance of the church owes much to the once-frequent Muslim raids. One of its parish priests in the 19th century, Fr. Julian Bermejo, was known as *el padre capitan* for his successful routing of the *moros*. He constructed a chain of watchtowers along a 96-kilometer length of coast and installed a telegraphic system for the purpose of warning adjoining towns of impending raids.

Beside the church is the old cemetery blocked off by a stone fence decorated with a carving of a skeleton holding a candle snuffer on one hand and a bell on the other.

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Impeachment Trial



SIYA PALA TALAGA SI VELARDE
TALO ANG DEFENSE NGAYON
ALAS NUWEBE NA NAMAN ANG HAPUNAN NATIN
SABIT SI PRESIDENTE DIYAN
'NAY, TELEPHONE
SABIHIN MO WALA AKO!
NAKAKAINIS YANG SENADORA NA YAN!
ANG KAPAL NAMAN NITO!
'WAG KAYONG MAINGAY, IMPEACHMENT NA!!!
AKO NAMAN... CATOONS NA, E!
ANG TITIGAS NG INGGLIS
YAN ANG NAGSASABI NG TOTOO!
SINUNGALING!
DI KO IBOBOTO YAN!
AYUN ANG TULOG
ANG GALING NG WITNESS
Jess Abrera '2001

This Week

Art

Beyond Aperture, exhibit by Tita Lim, at the lobby of the UP Vargas Museum (UP Diliman, Quezon City). Till Jan. 31. For details, call 920-5301.

Gestures, exhibit by Fernando Escora, at the Finale Art Gallery (Sunvar Plaza, Pasay Road, Makati City). From Jan. 16 till Jan. 28. For details, call 815-1813.

Bangkang Papel, an exhibit featuring 17 artists from Cebu and Bohol, at the Galleries A and B of the UP Vargas Museum (UP Diliman, Quezon City). Till Jan. 31. Participating artists include Evan Bejec, Stephanie de la Cruz, and Karl Roque. For details, call 920-5301.

Group Photo, photo exhibit by Bahaghari, at the Big Sky Mind (66B Doña Juana Rodriguez St., New Manila, Quezon City). Runs the whole month of January starting today. For details, call 414-7451.

Crafts and Weapons: A Homecoming for the St. Louis Exposition 1904, exhibit of 500 artifacts, at the National Museum (633 General Luna St., Intramuros, Manila). Till February. For details, call 527-1215/19.

A scene from the "Mistress of the Inn," onstage at the FEU Auditorium, Feb. 3-4. Directed by Ricardo Abad

Ligaya, exhibit by Juvenal Sanso, at the Art Center (4/L, SM Megamall A, Edsa, Mandaluyong City). Till Jan. 21. For details, call 634-2410/11.

Sheer Realities: Clothing and Power in 19th-century Philippines, an exhibit of carefully selected Philippine clothing ensembles for both male and female use, at the Metropolitan Museum of Manila (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Roxas Boulevard, Manila). Till Feb. 3, 2001. For details, call 521-1517.

Siglo Ikalabinsiyam **(19th Century)**, an exhibit featuring portraits, *tipos del pais*, landscape paintings and *letras y figuras* by Filipino masters, at the Metropolitan Museum (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Roxas Boulevard, Manila). Till Jan. 31. For booking of group tours, call 523-7855.

Music

Two new music videos from the Jesuit Communications Foundation: "One More Gift," written by Fr. Manoling Francisco, SJ, and performed by Ariel Rivera; and "Hesus ng Aking Buhay," composed by Bro. Arnel Aquino, SJ, and sung by Vincent Martin Pinpin. Distributed commercially by BMG Pilipinas Inc. For details, call the Jesuit Communications Foundation, 426-5971/5926.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Formula Sports Café (638-5547/48)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Onstage

Santa Juana ng mga Kural. Bertolt Brecht's masterpiece about the unholy alliance between the economic and religious elite against workers as presented by Tanghalang Ateneo. Translated by Virgilio Almario and Ronan Capinding and directed by Ricardo Abad and Ryan Villena, the play goes onstage at the Rizal Mini-Theatre on Jan. 18, 19, 20 and 27 at 7 p.m. with 3 p.m. Saturday matinees. For details, call 426-6001, local 5331.

Mistress of the Inn. Tanghalang Ateneo brings 17th-century charm in this comedy about a beautiful and wily innkeeper who gets her revenge on a woman-hating Baron. The Carlo Goldoni classic goes on an outreach performance at the FEU Auditorium on Feb. 3-4, 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Directed by Ricardo Abad with live music from master guitarist Ruben Reyes. For details, call 426-6001, local 5331, or contact Nora Adriano at 0917-9654211.

Sherman: Freshman goes onstage on Jan. 15-18, 7:10 p.m. at the Women's Residence Hall, UP Los Baños. Written and directed by Robert Louie Fermo Rebodos with Nayna Malayang as co-director. For details, call 09173498558 (Rob) or (049)536-2917 (Mij) or e-mail sherman_freshman@yahoo.com.

Miss Saigon, onstage until March at the CCP Main Theater (Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City). For details, call 891-5610, 635-6976/78, 522-7414, 922-1740, 433-2226/2184, 521-3166 to 80 locals 166 and 170.

Film

Instituto Cervantes (2515 Leon Guinto cor. Estrada Sts., Malate, Manila) presents *La primera noche de mi vida* (1998). Jan. 18, at the Instituto's Sala de Actos, 7:30 p.m. Directed by Miguel Albaladejo. With English subtitles. Free admission on a first-come-first-served basis. For details, call 526-1482 to 85.

Atbpa

Hands-on Introductory Course on Polyester Resin. figurine making, fiberglass, stained glass, lamination, encapsulation, etc. on Jan. 17-20. For details, call Dolly at 671-9837.

Lopez Museum Shop at Power Plant Mall. Opens this month at the ground floor of the Power Plant Mall in Rockwell, Makati City. Showcases monthly exhibitions of artists and designers like Claude Tayag, Aba Lluch Dalena, and Impy Pilapil. The shop also carries a collection of rare maps, prints, books and works of art, Filipiniana coffee-table books. Shop is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. For details, call 631-2417 or 898-0981.

The National Statistics Office has a better way of securing birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage certificates. Just dial the **NSO Helpline Plus Hotline 737-1111.** Just pay over the counter in any Metrobank branch and the requested document will be delivered by the LBC courier nine working days later. The hotline also entertains questions, guidelines and procedures in securing these documents. The service is available 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

Theravision Company invites **PT/OT/Nursing and Other Allied Health Science** students and board reviewees to a lecture-seminar on study/review methods, memory enhancements and test-taking techniques on Jan. 21, 1-3 p.m., at the Philippine Rehabilitation Institute, Banawe, Quezon City. Seminar fee is P200. For details, call 749-9854.

Storytelling is back at the Library! The Filipinas Heritage Library will hold a storytelling session at the Ayala Reading Room on Jan. 20, 9 a.m.-noon. There are loads of stories, games and activities and limited slots. For details, call 892-1801, look for Sky Espina or email events@fillib.org.ph

Adarna House invites everyone to *Abot Mo ba ang Tainga Mo?* book launching, written by Heidi Emily Eusebio Abad with clay art by Jose Miguel Tejido, on Jan. 20, 3 p.m., at Pediahouse 1 (81 Rosa Alvero St., Loyola Heights, Quezon City).

Nature Awareness and Conservation Club Inc. presents *Beachieneering sa* **Puerto Gallera (Mindoro).** Jan 27 and 28. Activities: swimming, snorkeling, boating, bumming, volleyball, cliff jumping, cave crawling, rock climbing. Trip orientation, Jan. 18, 6 p.m. Call Benjie at 891-6161 (4830) or 823-7873; **Mt. Pinatubo Pre-Valentine's Day Hike/Celebration.** Feb 3 and 4. For singles only. Call climb coordinator Anton at 433-2822 or 555-0283/845-0740. Hike orientation Jan. 18, 7 p.m.; Any time in April, **Bali Escapades (Indonesia).** Enjoy a seven-day stay in a five-star resort in one of the highly recommended international destinations. Estimated budget is $330 for airfare and accommodation on a first-come-first-served basis. There are five slots still available. Future activities include outreach program in the less fortunate communities in Mt. Kanlaon on April 9-10. Contact person is Bambi Sarreal at 532-5359. Contact Violeta C. Imperial at 606-1720 (6 p.m. onward).

Photoworld Manila 2001. The country is host to the biggest photography event in Southeast Asia, on Jan. 24-31 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City. With the theme "Infinite Creativity–Video, Imaging and Photography." There are seminars and lectures, the latest in photo technology and equipment and awarding of top photographers. For details, visit the PMW secretariat at 7/F Comfoods Bldg., cor. Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasong Tamo Street, Makati City, call 843-5341, fax 813-7420 or email ppfpwm@pacific.net.ph

Garden Extravaganza, Health, Sports and Home Updates Fair. Orchids, bonsai trees, ornamental plants, garden implements and tools at low prices will be showcased till Feb 9 at the Greenhills Shopping Center. Also to be showcased are appliances, handicrafts, electronics and kitchenware.

Riding Towards the Sunrise and Other Travel Tales by Alice M. Sun-Cua, published by Anvil Publishing Inc., is now available at all major bookstores.

The Great Italian Sale. Linea Italia Group offers a 30-percent discount in all collection including Versace, V2 Classic, Gianfranco Ferre, Dolce & Gabbana, Pal Zileri, Max Mara, Moschino, etc., at LIG shops in SM outlets.

Bahay Nakpil Bautista (432 Bautista St. [Barbosa], Quiapo, Manila) invites everybody to its **angel workshop.** To be conducted by Nonoy Ozatea, 1:30-5 p.m, on Jan. 20. Experience and learn all about angels. The Pahingalayan is now open for rituals, prayers, etc. The room is dedicated to the healing of the nation. For details, call 734-9341 (Tessie) or Jo (525-2561).

Food

T.G.I. Friday's (Glorietta, Ortigas, Malate, Quezon and Alabang City branches) introduces **ultimate margaritas**, a heady concoction of Jose Cuervo Gold, Triple Sec, Brandy VSOP and Cointreau served in an oversized 18-ounce goblet. Served with Apprageous, Three-for-all, Ballpark nachos and Buffalo wings.

The Legend Hotel Manila offers **Mongolian barbecue by the pool** every Tuesday and Thursday night starting this month, **International lunch buffet** every Wednesday, **Chinese lunch buffet** on Jan. 24 and 30 in celebration of the Chinese New Year. For details, call 633-1501.

Delightful weekends at Claudette's. Enjoy different breads like regular ensaimada with chocolate filling and cheese rolls, homespun "sweet bananas" and specialty cakes. Claudette's is located at the ground floor, Easton Place, Valero cor. Herrera Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Open every day.

X-manila

Bintana, exhibit by Margo Rae Medina, at the Waterfront Hotel (Cebu City). Till Jan. 17, 2001. For details, call (032) 232-6888.

New Voice Company's **Vagina Monologues** at the Hong Kong Arts Center on Feb. 1-3, 2001. For details, call 564-0384/80.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.